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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

At Wuchow, on the 2nd August, 1900, the wife of P. F. HAUSER, H.B.M. Consul, of a son.

On the 17th August, at the Grange, Logan Road, Penang, the wife of F. S. B. GAFFNEY, of a son.

On the 24th August, at Villa Blizabeth, Singapore, the wife of G. FRIEDRICH, of a son.

At West Hongkew, on the 26th August, 1900, the wife of MAJOR JAMES CHAMPION, of a daughter.

At 35, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, on the 27th August, 1900, the wife of the Rev. H. BARTON, C.M.S., of a daughter.

At 5, Shantung Road, Shanghai, on the 27th August, the wife of the Rev. J. D. LIDDELL, of Mongolia, of a son.

At 9, Quinsan Road, Shanghai, on the 29th August, the wife of C. C. BOJESSEN, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Kobe, on the 26th August, 1900, JANIE, the wife of SAM WAKEFIELD, aged 38 years.

At Shanghai, on the 29th August, at 4.45 p.m., JOSIE QUINN, wife of JOHN COOPER, aged 36 years.

At Shanghai, on Wednesday, the 29th August, CLARA ANNE, wife of E. A. ROBERTS, Chinese Customs Service, aged 37 years.

At Shanghai, on the 29th August, SARAH ROSE ANNE, wife of William Weston CLIFFORD, and only daughter of the late John CLEVERLY, of Lampeter.

On the 30th August, at Shanghai, WILLIAM T., infant son of P. B. PATTISON, Captain Superintendent of Police, aged one month.

At Shanghai, on the 30th August, WILLIAM TARIK, and on the 31st August, BERTHA, the twin son and daughter of Pierre B. PATTISON, Captain-Superintendent of Police, aged one month.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 3rd August arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, on the 1st September (29 days); the English mail of the 3rd August arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, on the 1st September (29 days); the American mail of the 26th July arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 2nd September (38 days); and the German mail of the 6th August arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Hamburg*, on the 4th September (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week from the north and about Amoy will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 182.

500 German troops landed in Shanghai on Thursday, the 6th inst.

It was announced on the 4th inst. that telegraphic communication with Chefoo had been restored.

Owing to the prevalence of cholera in and about Negapatam, all emigration from Southern India to the Straits has been temporarily stopped.

Mr. John Foster, the well-known U.S. jurist, who was special adviser to Li Hung-chang in 1895, has been appointed third U.S. Peace Commissioner to China.

Brigadier-General Cummins and Staff left Calcutta in the *Wardha* (second trip) on the 29th August, and are now on their way to Hongkong.

On the 1st inst. four mission compounds at Chian, Kiangsi, were attacked and destroyed. The officials, however, rescued the missionaries and escorted them into safety.

The Telegraph Companies informed us on Thursday morning that a cable has now been laid between Chefoo and Port Arthur and that it was open for service from the 6th inst.

It is stated that French capitalists intend to run a line of steamers between Haiphong and Hongkong, with calls at Pakhoi. The French are buying up large tracts of land at the last-named place.

A boat arriving at Shanghai last week from Yangtze ports reported the *Pique* at Hankow, *Wallaroo* at Kiukiang, *Daphne* at Wuhu, *Hermione* at Nanking, *Rosario* at Chinkiang and *Marathon* near Chinkiang.

The British transports arriving in Hongkong on their way north during the week were *Dalhousie*, *Nerbudda*, *Mombassa* (1st), *Pundua*, *India* (3rd), *Lalpoora* (7th). The departures for the north were *Humber*, *Maine* (1st), *Mombassa* (4th), *India* and *Dalhousie* (7th).

Lloyds' Agent at Manila visited the wreck of the Japanese steamer *Futami Maru* on the 1st inst. in the *Compania Maritima's* s.s. *Churruca*, formally abandoned the vessel, and brought away the remainder of the crew who had been staying by her.

Viceroy Liu Kung-yi has been making every effort to discover the whereabouts of the Empress Dowager, and sent messengers to Shantung, Honan, Shansi, and Moukden, as well as to the capital itself. On Tuesday news arrived that the Emperor and Empress Dowager both arrived at Taiyuanfu, Shansi, on the 30th ult.

The new Siamese telegraph line down the Malay Peninsula, which almost establishes direct communication between Bangkok and Singapore, has not yet been opened to the public on account of differences as to the tariffs on the branch line to Penang. Negotiations for a settlement are being conducted through the British Chargé d'Affaires at Bangkok.

On the 1st inst. the Philippine Civil Commission entered upon their deliberations in the form of a legislative body at Manila. In political status the Commission will be paramount, and the military Governor will act under its authority and enforce its enactments. The Commissioners are: William H. Taft, Luke E. Wright, Dean C. Worcester, Henry C. Ide, and Bernard Moses.

A correspondent of the *Nagasaki Press* writes:—An anti-Japanese association at Amoy appears to be in active opposition to the Japanese. A notice insisting on the necessity of restoring Formosa to China has been circulated among the members of the association. It is reported that the circular fell into the hands of the British Consul, who made its contents public.

Japanese shipowners are said to contemplate the establishment of a regular mail steamship communication with the Caroline and Ladrone Islands, the new German Colonies. Four boats—the *Tokai*, *Fumppo*, *Chomei*, *Shippo*—will be engaged in the new line.

The Chinese Government (whomever that term may represent) has appointed Li Hung-chang and Yung Lu plenary peacemakers to that with the Powers. Our Shanghai correspondent points out that Yung Lu's appointment is simply farcical as Yung Lu was the author of the scheme whereby the foreigners were to be exterminated by the "Boxers."

Out of twenty-two members of the Bible Christian Mission at Yunnan-fu only eleven have arrived here safely as yet, and it is feared that something has befallen the remaining eleven, who left Yunnan for Hongkong within a few hours of the former batch. The various Consuls *en route* have been notified, and enquiries set on foot among the Chinese authorities this side of Yunnan.

The announcement at the beginning of the present week that Russia had proposed the withdrawal of the foreign troops from Peking has aroused a general feeling of consternation among residents in China. Shanghai is stated to have been indignant over the matter, and certainly the feeling in Hongkong is not less strong. The reported firm attitude of Germany, on the other hand, gives satisfaction.

Our Macao correspondent writes calling attention to the prohibition of the import or export of firearms, a notice relating to which we have already published. The gunpowder monopoly in the colony has also been temporarily suspended. The new Krupp guns which were brought to Macao with the Portuguese troops have been mounted at various points in the city, and a feeling of confidence has been restored.

On the 1st inst. H.M.S. *Mohawk* and the U.S. gunboat *Castine* arrived at Amoy, and the Russian cruiser *Burik* on the 2nd. The situation there has much improved, and affairs are calming down. The Japanese troops which were ordered from Formosa have been detained at Taipei and will not proceed to Amoy. The last news to hand indicates that the British and Japanese have both withdrawn.

On the 2nd inst. several members of the Imperial Maritime Customs staff who were in the siege of the Legation at Peking arrived in Shanghai. In spite of the long siege they are reported to be well. Among other details of the affair they related that a mine was discovered under the British Legation, which it was intended to explode on the day after the Relief Column arrived. Other members of the garrison arrived in Shanghai in the course of the week.

The Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph Co.'s twin-screw steamer *Sherard Osborne* arrived at Hongkong on the 5th at 8 a.m. from Singapore. She is bound for Woosung and will be engaged in repairing the cables in the north. She left Singapore on the 28th December, 1899, to take soundings for the new cable from Freemantle to Mauritius; also to repair the line between Sydney and New Zealand. She arrived again at Singapore on the 15th August last, where she shipped four tanks full of cable, which is as much as she can carry. The vessel was built in 1878 and steams 10 knots. She reels out the cable over a system of rollers and drums at an average rate of six knots an hour, and takes it on board at about 3½ or 4 knots. The *Sherard Osborne* left again on the 5th.

THE PROPOSED RETREAT FROM PEKING.

(Daily Press, 4th September.)

It is difficult enough to make out from the mass of London telegrams which have reached us in the last few days what the actual attitude of some of the Powers is with regard to action at Peking in the immediate future. There seems, however, no doubt that Russia presses for a speedy withdrawal of the allied troops from Peking, proposing apparently to conduct the negotiations with the Chinese Government from the comfortable distance of the Treaty Ports. There is little wonder indeed that great indignation prevails in Shanghai, as our correspondent informed us in the telegram which appeared in our issue of yesterday. It is inconceivable that Russia can fail to see what effect such a withdrawal would have on the Imperial party and on the Chinese mind generally. How, too, is it possible to believe that she is acting in good faith when she informs the United States that "the Empress Dowager is willing to guarantee the security of trade and prevent the recurrence of disorders?" A more ludicrous statement has never been made officially by any Government in the course of history. The Empress Dowager has proved herself in the eyes of the world a criminal and an associate of still worse criminals, and the suggestion that after the Powers have temporarily inconvenienced her—it is little more than this—by causing her to quit Peking she should be allowed to return and treat with the nations who by her direct agency have been grossly outraged and betrayed is either folly or dishonesty. Now Russian diplomacy is never blind, and we are forced therefore to conclude that the St. Petersburg Government is not acting straightforwardly. It seems that we cannot be sure what was the exact reply of the United States to Russia's proposition. On the one hand, we are told that the States have intimated their willingness to withdraw from Peking and allow the "Imperialists" to return; on the other, that the States favour the joint occupation of Peking until order is re-established—which is certainly a long time off. With regard to the other Powers, little is certain. Our London telegram of the 31st ult. mentions the report that five of the seven Powers represented at Peking have assented to the proposed withdrawal, Germany and Italy alone standing out. This is only a report, but it looks ominous. It was not to be expected that Germany would "climb down"; the Emperor's speech has committed her to vigorous action, if she is not to incur general ridicule. In this fact lies the chief hope, outside what confidence we may feel in our own Government, that a disastrous end will not be put to the occupation of the Chinese capital.

The only reason which can be given for the proposed retreat is the fear of further complications arising from a prolonged stay. But what will the half-beaten Manchu-Chinese party say when they see the foreigners in full retirement on Tientsin? China has never admitted a defeat. Even the collapse against Japan was never brought home to the mind of the people and failed to convince the rulers themselves. A retreat cannot but be construed as an admission of weakness, and indeed it will be truly such an admission. When the allies have returned to Tientsin, the Imperialists in the restored security of the capital will be beyond the reach of dictation. The Legations, it is true, will have been rescued and a war can be conducted with a less heavy heart. But it should not be for this outcome that

Europe, the States, and Japan have sacrificed their men and spent their money. We have offered us now a chance, the like of which has never occurred before, of establishing a government worthy of the name in China. If we are simply going to throw this chance away and attempt to patch up once more the old corrupt, barbarous, and treacherous régime, under which China and the foreigners who have come in contact with her have suffered so much, we shall make of ourselves an ignominious spectacle for future ages. The patching-up process in this case will cost the Powers dear and threatens to last even less time than usual. Mr. BRODRICK's exposition of British policy on the 2nd ult. promised better than this. It is hard to believe that it did not indicate a genuine awakening to the facts, but if the blunder of withdrawing from Peking be now consummated, then Mr. BRODRICK's words, we fear, will be merely words spoken in vain.

THE NEW CHINA BLUE-BOOK.

(Daily Press, 6th September.)

The new Blue-book, "China No. 3, 1900," is a work of 115 pages, comprising 277 telegrams, letters, and documents relating to the present crisis in China, from Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's message of the 4th January, announcing the murder of the Rev. S. M. BROOKS in Shantung, to a translation of an Imperial Edict, dated the 29th June and communicated to the British Government by the Chinese Ambassador in London on the 13th July. In this mass of correspondence the development of the attitude of the Imperial Government towards the "Boxers" can be clearly traced. On the first receipt of the news of Mr. BROOKS's murder, the Emperor and Empress Dowager are "incensed at this deplorable event," they "have commanded that all the officials within whose jurisdiction the outrage was committed be disgraced by being deprived of their ranks and honours until such time as they shall have succeeded in arresting the guilty parties," the Tsungli Yamen "express their deepest sorrow." Yet the late Governor of Shantung, YU HSIEN, to whose anti-Christian sympathies were directly due the Shantung outrages, is in March found to be appointed to Shansi. The actual murderers of the unfortunate missionary, however, were executed, their assistants heavily punished, and the district magistrate of Fei Ch'eng, where the murder took place, dismissed and denounced to the throne. Two neighbouring magistrates, whom Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD states to be equally culpable, the Yamen refused to punish, as the outrage did not take place in their districts. On the 11th April Lord SALISBURY, in reply to a note of the Chinese Ambassador, who "felt assured that the exemplary punishment inflicted on the murderers and officials" would be regarded as a satisfactory settlement of the occurrence, pointed out that YU HSIEN had been appointed Governor of another province, and that thus the settlement was not regarded as wholly satisfactory. In the meanwhile Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD had on the 27th January, in conjunction with the American, French, German, and Italian Ministers at Peking, addressed a note to the Tsungli Yamen, asking for an Imperial Decree specifically denouncing the anti-Christian Societies in Shantung and Chihli, and receiving no reply wrote again on the 21st February. An unsatisfactory answer was received, stating that a Decree had been issued that the Governors of the provinces should put an end to the disturbances, so the Tsungli Yamen were asked for an inter-

view. This was accorded on the 2nd March, the Ministers on the night before receiving from the Yamen a copy of a Proclamation by the Governor-General of Chihli, embodying an Imperial Decree, in which the Boxers were denounced in unambiguous terms. In view, however, of the delay of the Chinese Government, the Ministers insisted on presenting a note asking for the publication in the *Peking Gazette* of a Decree ordering the suppression of the "Boxer" and "Big Sword" Societies. The Yamen promised to consider the question and send a reply. This reply, when it came, maintained the impossibility of publishing the required decree in the *Gazette*, and on the 10th March the Ministers sent a note reiterating the demand and adding that in the event of a refusal they would recommend their Governments to adopt other measures to protect their nationals' lives and property. More than three weeks passed without any answer to this. On the 5th April, the Chinese Secretaries of the Legations were sent to the Tsungli Yamen, notifying that body that an answer was expected within two days. On the 7th a note was received, stating that a Decree has been received by them directing the Viceroy of Chihli and the Governor of Shantung to publish Proclamations quoting the Imperial Decree in full, while in that published by the Governor of Shantung, the "Big Knife" Society was specified by name. The publication in the *Gazette* of the Decree already transmitted to the provinces was "a matter effected by Standing Regulations," and could not therefore be done. The representatives of the Powers waived the publication in the *Gazette*, but informed the Yamen that they held the Chinese Government responsible for any further results due to non-compliance with their recommendation. In the *Peking Gazette* of the 14th April, however, was published the Memorial from the Governor-General of Chihli, embodying the Imperial Decree, which thus actually appeared in the *Gazette*. Moreover, on the 17th April an Imperial Decree appeared in the *Gazette*, deprecating anti-Christian disturbances, though mentioning no societies by name. Fresh disturbances took place in Chihli, and on the 19th Sir CLAUDE telegraphed that he had interviewed the Yamen on the previous day, when he reminded them of his repeated warnings about not taking adequate measures against the Boxers. The Yamen admitted that they had underrated the seriousness of the movement, but said that the day before an Imperial Decree has been issued, directing certain metropolitan and provincial authorities to adopt stringent measures to suppress the Boxers. This, they believed, would not fail to have the desired effect. On the 20th all eleven foreign representatives at Peking met and agreed that a note should be sent to the Yamen to the effect that the Diplomatic Body requested that all printers, publishers, and disseminators of anti-foreign placards, all aiders and abettors, and all owners of buildings used as Boxers' meeting-places should be arrested, that all guilty of arson, murder, etc., should be executed, and that a Decree to this effect should be issued in Peking and the northern provinces. The Yamen answered, unsatisfactorily, that the measures already in force agreed in the main with those asked by the Powers, and that another Decree was being asked for. Sir CLAUDE himself, as appears from a letter to Lord SALISBURY written on the 21st May, at this time thought the danger of the situation at Peking itself exaggerated; but it turned out, as all now know, that the French Fathers, from whom the rumours came, were right and Sir CLAUDE wrong. On the even-

ing of the 26th May the French Minister informed his colleagues that his information led him to believe that a serious anti-European outbreak was on the point of occurring in Peking. It was determined to ask the Yamen what measures they had taken and also that the terms of the Edict of which they spoke should be communicated. On the 27th Sir CLAUDE interviewed Prince CHING and the Yamen and was convinced that energetic measures were being taken by the Government against the Boxers. The Ministers decided to wait another twenty-four hours. On the 29th Sir CLAUDE announced to Lord SALISBURY the burning of stations at Yengtai, six miles from Peking, and the interruption of the Tientsin-Peking service; and later in the day that the Ministers had decided to send for guards for the Legations. The Yamen promptly refused permission for the guards to come to Peking, in spite of the fact that the populace was in a very excited state and the troops mutinous. On the 30th the British, French, Russian, and United States Ministers declared to the Yamen that the guards must be brought up immediately, that the number would be small if facilities were granted, but would be increased if they were refused. After a further attempt at delay, permission was given for thirty to each Legation, and on the 31st May the British, American, Italian, Russian, French, and Japanese arrived, no disturbances occurring, although on the previous day when the French and Russians attempted to start the Chinese troops threatened to fire on them, and they were obliged to turn back. The number was not limited to thirty, for Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD states that three officers and seventy-five men, with a machine-gun, made up the British detachment. On the 2nd June Sir CLAUDE telegraphed that murders of Christian converts and destruction of missionary property were occurring daily, and that he learnt the situation at the Palace was very strained, the EMPRESS DOWAGER not daring to put down the Boxers, although wishing to do so, on account of the support given them by Prince TUAN and other conservative Manchus, and also because of their numbers. Later on the same day he telegraphed that the French Minister had learnt on good authority that the EMPRESS DOWAGER was preparing to fly to Sian-fu, owing to hostile demonstrations against her by the Boxers. On the 4th Sir CLAUDE reported that the foreigners in Peking might at any moment be besieged, with the railway and telegraph lines cut, and therefore requested Lord SALISBURY to instruct Admiral SEYMOUR to consult with the Commanders of the other foreign squadrons about concerted measures for relief. On the 5th the British Minister called on the Yamen to ask what steps were being taken to punish the murder of Mr. ROBINSON, news of which was received on the previous day. The Yamen stated that the Viceroy was the responsible person, and that they had telegraphed to him to send troops to the spot. They expressed no regret, and during the interview displayed the greatest indifference. Sir CLAUDE, after warning the Yamen that the Chinese Government would be "held responsible for their criminal apathy," demanded an interview with Prince CHING, which was fixed for the next day. Accordingly on the 5th June he saw Prince CHING and the Yamen together, when great regret was expressed for the murder of Messrs. ROBINSON and NORMAN (for it now appeared that both had been killed). Prince CHING did not attempt to defend the Chinese Government and was unable to reassure Sir CLAUDE as

to the safety of Peking. He admitted that "the Government was reluctant to deal harshly with the movement, which, owing to its anti-foreign character, was popular." It was clear from the interview that the Yamen wished the Minister to understand that the situation was most serious, and that, owing to the influence of ignorant advisers with the Empress-Dowager, they were powerless to remedy it. The only resource which the representatives of the Powers could see was to ask for a special audience with the Throne. It was decided, however, on the 6th to wait three days before asking for this, and it does not appear that the request was ultimately made at all.

Next day Sir CLAUDE reported the issue in the *Gazette* of the Decree ascribing the recent trouble to the admission to the ranks of the converts of bad characters, and declaring that the Boxers and converts alike were the objects of the Throne's sympathy. This Decree admitted that there were bad characters among the Boxers, but the general tone, Sir CLAUDE writes, was most unsatisfactory. On the 8th he wires that it had produced a very bad effect, and he received on that day a telegram from H. M. Consul at Tientsin, announcing the presence of Boxers near Yangtsun. On the 11th he reported the burning of the summer Legation, an assault on the Secretary of the Belgian Legation by Chinese soldiers in Legation Street, and an attack on some student interpreters by Boxers, from whom they only escaped by using firearms. This telegram he despatched by the Kiachta route, as communication with Tientsin was now interrupted. Admiral SEYMOUR was believed to be at Langfang. On the 12th Sir CLAUDE sent a pressing message, asking that the relief party should be informed that the mutinous Kansu soldiery were in possession of the Peking railway terminus and might offer some resistance. The Government of China, he added, seemed powerless, and he trusted the Admirals would not hesitate to deplete their ships for the relief of Peking. On the 14th he reported the murder of the Japanese Secretary of Legation by Tartar cavalry on the previous day. Here the story abruptly breaks off, and the Legations were cut off from the outside world and their fate plunged in that great obscurity from which they have at length emerged on the capture of Peking on the 15th of last month.

(Daily Press, 7th September.)

From the long *résumé* which we gave yesterday of the correspondence in the new Blue-book relating to the attitude of the Chinese Government toward the anti-foreign agitators, certain deductions can be made. It seems in the first place probable that the strength of the movement did actually take by surprise the majority of the governing clique, though the extreme conservative Manchu party must have been able to judge with accuracy. Even the Empress Dowager must in the main be exonerated from complicity with the early actions of the so-called "Boxers," though it was of course her invincible ignorance and her disgraceful subservience to the worst influences of her Court which rendered the success of the reactionaries possible at all. The Boxers, it is plain, were by no means well disposed to her personally, and her conduct was inspired largely by terror of them rather than by friendship. This feeling ultimately reached such a height that at the beginning of June she was actually preparing to fly from Peking to Sian-fu to escape the hostile demonstrations against her. Her fears were well justified, for the spread of the Boxer influence synchronised with the complete waning of her

power and the substitution of the rule of Prince TUAN, the head of the Society. Prince TUAN's name is not prominent in the official correspondence, but there can be no doubt that he supplied the backbone of the Tsungli Yamen, whose attitude can be watched as it changes from one of (outward) regret and dismay at the murder of the unfortunate Mr. BROOKS to one of contemptuous indifference and wilful procrastination, on which nothing but open threats have any effect. Seeing this, it is surprising that the Ministers were so sparing in their threats. And yet, if there was ever a situation calling for the application of Sir MICHAEL SEYMOUR's often quoted saying, in 1858, that "nothing but the conclusive evidence of irresistible force will ever fully satisfy the Chinese Government," it was at this point.

The manner in which the Chinese Government induced England to put up with a belated and totally inadequate punishment for the murder of Mr. BROOKS no doubt encouraged the anti-foreign party in their contempt of European diplomacy and strengthened their hold on the reins of government. Then again the shuffling tactics of the Yamen in the matter of the publication of a Decree denouncing the Boxers in the *Peking Gazette* were from the Chinese point of view entirely successful. In March the Yamen for three weeks vouchsafed no answer to an urgent circular letter again demanding this Decree, and they so put off the publication that when at length in a roundabout manner it appeared its effect was *nil*. And so affairs continued to the end, the Ministers being constantly put off and disregarded, yet unwilling to advise an instant and vigorous demonstration by the Powers. They seem to have feared more than anything lest they should be thought alarmists. It is to the credit of M. PICHON, the French Minister that he did his best to open his colleagues' eyes, being convinced, from information received from French priests in Chihli, that the situation was graver than it appeared on the surface. Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD on the 21st May wrote to Lord SALISBURY:—"As regards my own opinion as to the danger to which Europeans in Peking are exposed, I confess that little has come to my own knowledge to confirm the gloomy anticipations of the French Fathers. The demeanour of the inhabitants of the city continues to be quiet and civil towards foreigners. . . . I am convinced that a few days' heavy rainfall, to terminate the long-continued drought, would do more to restore tranquillity than any measures which either the Chinese Government or foreign Governments could take." Little more than three weeks after this letter was written the Legations were fighting for their lives. Why is it that the French Minister alone should have had the means of estimating the state of affairs correctly?

The *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 25th ult. contains the following two items:—"The prolonged drought, which for some time past has been causing anxiety amongst farmers, is now beginning to be regarded a serious matter by all classes. The first crop of rice was poor enough through the floods at the end of June, and now that the second crop is threatened from want of rain and the sweet-potato crop is suffering from the same cause, the prospects for food supply are viewed as extremely gloomy.—In reply to our enquiries about the tigers at Kuliang a correspondent writes, 'no change.' The visits of the striped monsters to farm-houses in the neighbourhood of the foreign bungalows are of nightly occurrence. Owing to frequent losses, the natives are now looking up their dogs at night time."

THE MISSIONARY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 3rd September.)

If any argument were needed in favour of the suspension for the present of missionary effort in the interior of China, it is to be found in the heartrending narrative of the sufferings of a party of missionaries while escaping from Pingyao, in Shansi, to Hankow. The terrible story, as told in the *N.C. Daily News*, shows how eight adults and six children left Pingyao on the 25th June and were subsequently joined by Mr. and Mrs. GLOVER and two children and Miss GATES from Lu-an (all the party being members of the China Inland Mission), to make their way overland to Hankow, the nearest treaty port. They were fifty days accomplishing the journey, and five of them perished miserably on the way, and all of them suffered privations and ill-treatment almost unspeakable. Indeed, it is a marvel that any of them survived to tell the melancholy tale of murderous cruelty inflicted upon them by the callous-hearted people of Shansi. They had to leave Pingyao, where the Magistrate had always been friendly, because the savage Governor Yu HSIEN had practically ordered the destruction of all foreigners. The Pingyao Magistrate did what he could for them, however. He furnished them with an escort and sent them off to Tai-yuan, the capital, 150 *li* distant; but when they had arrived within about 20 *li* from this city, they were met by a native Christian who was fleeing south. He told them the Inland Mission premises there had already been burned, that the Roman Catholic Mission had been torn down, and that the Baptist Mission was surrounded by a raging mob. Alarmed by this intelligence, they turned back towards Pingyao, and their escort at once left them. They reached Lucheng, where there was an Inland Mission station, in a state of utter destitution, having been stripped of all the money and valuables they possessed to satisfy the exorbitant demands of the people in the places through which they passed. There they rested in peace for two days, but had to resume their flight at midnight with nothing but a donkey-load of bedding and clothes and some silver to pay their expenses *en route*. They were soon relieved of these possessions. About 40 *li* from Lucheng they were stopped by a mob, who demanded money, and then proceeded to help themselves, leaving the poor fugitives not only completely destitute but stripped of all their clothes except a single pair of native drawers each. Neither sex nor age was respected or compassionated, and in this pitiable condition they were driven along the road by men armed with clubs, from village to village, new bands of tormentors turning out from each and hounding them on. Neither food nor water was obtainable, except grass from the wayside and water from filthy puddles. Miss RICE, one of the party, succumbed to the inhuman beatings and torturing to which she was subjected about 50 *li* north of Tsechau-fu, in Shansi. The full details of her martyrdom are almost too sickening for recapitulation, and her colleague Miss HOSKINSON fared little better, for, when she at length got away from her torturers and rejoined the party, her brain was protruding from a wound in her head. She struggled on with them, however, until they reached Yunmung, in Hupeh, where she died. Mrs. COOPER, another lady of the party, died at Yingshan of the hardships of the journey, her sufferings having been terrible from exposure, blows, and starvation. Two of the children likewise died untimely, done to death by the brutal peasantry. The surviving children when they arrived at

Hankow were mere walking skeletons. It is only fair to add that so soon as the party entered the province of Hupeh, over which H. E. CHANG CHIH-TUNG rules, they met with great kindness from the Magistrates there and were supplied with all necessities. In Shansi they had been hunted like wild beasts, and none of them would have escaped alive but for the selfish anxiety of the various officials that they should not die in their districts, probably inspired by a fear that in the future some reckoning might be called for.

This is only one story out of many. It is the first of which anything like connected details have been given, and it is enough to turn even a "sluggard's blood to flame." It is bad enough to hear of our fellow countrymen being tortured and roasted to death by the "Heathen Chinese," but to learn that these pitiless fiends beat and stripped gently born women and delicate children, and drove them on the hard roads barefooted, bare-headed, nearly nude under the blazing sun, hungry, thirsty, weary, and bruised with cruel blows from heavy sticks, is something that can neither be forgotten nor forgiven to the Governor of Shansi, whose hostile proclamation provoked this display of cold-blooded ferocity. If that infamous official is permitted to live and exult in his cruel deeds, it will reflect undying shame on the SALISBURY Government. One of the items in settlement of the long account with the Chinese Government should be the surrender of this man to British justice. A mere indemnity—the usual salve proposed and too often accepted by the British Foreign Office—will not meet the present case. What is wanted is the swift and relentless punishment, not of the tools, but of the instigators of these crimes against humanity. We are not speaking now of the lives lost in the British Legation and in the hostilities, but of the heartless murders of women and children in the interior. Because the Ministers and their subordinates were not massacred, it does not follow that other wrongs should go unatoned for, and we trust that public opinion will be brought to bear on the Government in this matter. We also hope that the British Government will at the same time, no matter what may be the opposition, absolutely refuse to allow, in future, any women to accompany missionaries into the interior of China. They cannot, perhaps, prevent men from foolishly going in search of a martyr's crown; they can only decline to afford them protection beyond the Treaty Port limits; but they can, we think, justly refuse to allow them to take their female relatives. It is monstrous that young and innocent children should be wantonly exposed to the horrible cruelties that were inflicted upon the hapless little ones in Shansi. They are not free agents in the matter, and they should be protected from the frightful risks their progenitors cheerfully undertake. The Roman Catholic missionaries, being celibate, do not expose tender infants to the savage brutalities of Celestial mobs. Neither should their *confrères*. Let them also take the vow of celibacy and not drag tenderly nurtured women into the squalid cities and villages of the Central Kingdom, to be exposed to studied insult and open violence. We have had enough of this kind of thing. It is time that the Government intervened and put down its foot in this matter. It is extremely doubtful, we think, whether the presence of women missionaries in China works for good at all. Their influence among converts may be beneficial, but to counterbalance that they arouse among the mass of the population a great deal of prejudice, from the status they claim for their

sex, which is totally opposed to Chinese ideas. We are not arguing that the Chinese are right, but we are of opinion that Christianity should not be forced upon them. At any rate it is not the best preparation of the ground to go and scratch up a crop of prejudices. Neither is it desirable that anti-missionary outrages should be provoked, or excuses for their occurrence be furnished. If Christian Missions are to achieve success in the most unpromising soil of the Celestial Empire, it will only be through careful living down of prejudices and an apostolic example. The road for the missionary in China is a hard one, with little success to cheer him on the thorny way. But if he elects to travel it he should not expect to drag with him wife or children. It was not thus that St. PAUL set forth on his voyage, nor were the early pioneers accompanied by their female relations. What we are concerned with, however, is that there shall never again be possible a repetition of the pitiful stories of the last few weeks, when helpless women and children of our race were exposed to the jeers, jibes, outrage, and unbridled violence of inhuman Chinese mobs.

THE CRISIS AND THE TELEGRAMS.

(Daily Press, 5th September.)

Of all languages Chinese lends itself with the greatest difficulty to the electric telegraph system as at present in use. The reason is simple; there is no settled system of phonetic writing, but each man transliterates according to his own ideas and his own dialect, and the tones—in many respects the most important indication—cannot be represented in the present codes. The written language again does not address itself to the ear, but has to be mentally translated into the colloquial with the assistance of the eye, and, as a sound is frequently represented by a dozen or two of characters, there is no certainty as to the meaning of the sentence if merely the sounds of the language as written be transmitted. To get over the difficulty the Telegraph companies have devised a list of some six thousand characters in most common use, and to each attached a number. Hence every Chinese message sent over the lines is of necessity translated into a numeral code, and has to be written back on arrival. This system naturally lends itself to cryptic code messages, and it requires but a slight change in the code-book in ordinary use to render a message unintelligible to any but the sender and receiver. During the time then of the imprisonment of the Ministers at Peking, hundreds of messages must have passed between the higher officials; but of these, except that here and there an operator may have made a wide guess as to the meaning, nothing was known of the contents. Many of the pretended messages from the Capital which threw such discredit on the correspondents of the papers at home seem to have originated in this way. News from the capital was at a premium, and no Chinese official, where there is a possibility of leakage, is proof against the temptation of dollars. Sometimes the telegraph clerk did possibly find a clue to what was passing through his finger tips; more frequently taking what he knew, and what he surmised, he made an attempt to join the two. At last came the great *coup*. Not one word had come from the Legations: Admiral SEYMOUR had gone with an insufficient force to make a dash for Peking, and had been closed in on all sides and not a word escaped as to what had become of him and his small band. Tientsin was being attack-

ed on all sides; and, it was known, was isolated from the ships at Taku and had a difficulty in holding out. The French Settlement had been well nigh destroyed, and big guns were being brought to bear on the rest, while but a narrow river separated the foreign quarter from the opposite bank, which was crowded with Chinese troops. It was an anxious time, and rumours were flying in the air. It required but a slight stretch of imagination to picture the destruction of the beleaguered Legations, which were known not to be too well supplied with ammunition. It was not above the ordinary mental power of a Chinese telegraph clerk to supply the few details necessary to found a gruesome tale. There was little confidence felt in the chiefs of the Telegraph service, or the officials in Shantung, so that when on the 16th July the pretended confession of the telegraph clerk got to the ears of the press agents it found them only too well prepared to believe it. Unfortunately, like a magpie who had stolen a spoon, their first instinct was to bury it; and it was carefully concealed from public gaze at Shanghai till it had been flashed across the wires. When first the pretended news was given out at Shanghai, that the officials had received a telegram announcing the capture of the Legations and the death of every European in the city, the first feeling was one of stupor. So many circumstances tended to show that such an event was within the bounds of possibility, that for a short time the community felt bound to believe it; but still as no one knew definitely whence the tale proceeded, and no light was being thrown upon it, a feeling of disbelief commenced to grow. It might be true, all argued, but there was no reason to believe, but much to the contrary, that any news of the alleged crime had been received; nor did it strike any one that already the most bloodcurdling details had already been invented, and sent to Europe. The story however took so definite a shape that the Consuls felt themselves called upon to demand of SHENG Taotai, the Director of Telegraphs, how such an important piece of news had been received without their being informed of it. SHENG indignantly denied in the most direct language that such a telegram had been received by anyone; and the Consuls at once took steps to circulate his denial. Although personally the community had but little confidence in SHENG his statement was so explicit, and tallied so well with the conclusions already arrived at by the better informed, that in a short time the excitement that had been caused ceased; and most people thought no more about it. In this frame of mind people in China were a few days after surprised at the receipt of a Reuter to the effect that the service, intended to be held in St. Paul's in memory of those slaughtered at Peking, had been postponed on account of the uncertainty attaching to the affair, and this seems to have been the first intimation of extraordinary depth to which people's feelings had been harrowed by the false information wired. But the most extraordinary part of the extraordinary tale remains to be told, and as the whole story is at last clearly known we tell it in full. The *Daily Mail* boasts itself as one of the best informed papers in the world, and has its correspondents in all quarters of the globe. On the 16th July it published what purported to be a telegram received from its correspondent at Shanghai, giving the most minute and harrowing details of the last stand made by the Europeans at the British Legation. Daily sorties, it said, were made by the besieged, and had the effect of disheartening the Chinese, till Prince T'UAN himself had to en-

courage them in person. Prince CHING and General WANG came to the rescue of the Legation, and a pitched battle ensued, in which they were defeated. "Prince CHING fell, it was supposed at the time he was killed. . . . WANG WENGSHAO, although a grey-haired old man 70 years old, valiantly led his troops in person. He was killed. . . . Towards sunrise it was evident that the ammunition of the Allies was running out. . . . A rush was determined on. Thus standing together, as the sun rose fully, the little remaining band, all Europeans, met death stubbornly, &c." Now anyone acquainted with Chinese ways of thought will at once perceive that this story could not have been concocted by a Chinaman, and that the culprit must have been an European. However he may have been deceived by the first pretended telegram, which speaks badly for his acumen, he certainly owed to no native source these jumbled details; which had he any acquaintance with the men and their surroundings he would at once have seen must be false. Whence came this circumstantial account of an event that never occurred? Part of the story seems to have been actually telegraphed from Shanghai, for, before its appearance in the London Press, certain of the supposed incidents had been confidentially circulated; but the details were not published till the story had arrived in London, and as, according to the tale, every one concerned who was likely to tell what had really happened on the eventful day had perished, there would have been no means of coming at the truth. Dead men tell no tales, and the ingenious inventor thought he might as well have the credit of being the historian. But who was the inventor, who thus, lightly for the sake of a guinea or two, was content to plunge a thousand families in mourning, and perhaps seriously compromise the nation? It is of course unlikely it will be ever known, for every means will have been taken to extinguish the traces. One little affair, however, that attained some prominence five years ago may throw some light on the subject. The correspondent of a large news agency had telegraphed some particulars about the operations then being conducted by the Japanese against the Chinese fleet blockaded within Weihaiwei harbour; the telegram contained nothing sensational. It so happened that somebody going by had heard guns firing, and in telegraphing mentioned the circumstance. The recipient was equal to the occasion. He concluded that the two messages referred to the same occasion, and made out an exciting detail of a naval battle, as having been received from their Shanghai correspondent. This precious concoction was sent out as news to their clients, and inserted in good faith. The *Times*, however, had the courage to bring the affair into the Law Courts, and obtain the production of the original telegrams, which turned out to have no reference to the supposed engagement; the telegrams had in fact been "faked" in London. We do not desire to accuse the London Press of having wilfully distorted or added to the telegrams sent, but it is well known that there is a class of men attached to most of the larger papers whose business it is to amplify the telegrams received from correspondents, themselves occasionally unskilled in condensing messages. For the most part these men discharge their task carefully, but even when carefully done the task of amplifying is a dangerous one, even when the artist is well acquainted with the details of the particular locality. It is a by no means safe process to attempt, unless aided by personal knowledge of the object portrayed, to attempt to

heighten the lights and shadows of a photographic landscape, where the enhancement is apt to overpower the really more prominent features of the scene. In the photograph there is, however, something to go on; the rays have made their mark on the plate; though momentarily invisible, they may be brought out by further development. In the telegram, beyond the words actually sent, there is absolutely nothing to guide the enhancer, and the result is too frequently an entire misrepresentation of the meaning which the sender intended to convey.

SOUTH AFRICA.

(*Daily Press*, 1st September.)

As in all ages public policy has ruled, with approbation of the world at large, that success alone justifies revolution; so has it been accepted as a maxim that decisive defeat renders further resistance illegitimate. The world, however, has not yet been able to formulate a rule as to when the justifying period of success has arrived in the first case, nor, in the second, when the decisive period of defeat has arrived—when patriot gives place to guerilla, eventually to sink deeper to the level of the bandit. The old subject of dispute is being very clearly placed before our eyes in the case of South Africa. The British public looks with some impatience at what it affects to consider the extreme prolongation of the war. DEWEY and BOTHA rise before their eyes as obstinate guerillas, who refuse to accept the plain call of duty in not coming in at once to lay their arms; yet perhaps a little may be said in their favour; and had their hands been quite clean, even the British people would have come to look upon them as brave men hopelessly following a lost cause. Compared with other wars of the same nature, the rapidity of Lord ROBERTS's campaign is what will strike the future student of history. It is not yet a full year since the Boers, fully prepared to undertake an offensive campaign, with arms and artillery of the latest and most scientific description, led by able and determined men, and supported by the secret sympathy of at least one of the first-class Powers, suddenly marched into the northern extremity of Natal, and at once commenced hostilities. The British had but a small army corps available, and had to retreat before superior numbers, and finally undergo a very determined siege in Ladysmith. As in many other modern instances, both sides had made the siege the crucial test of the campaign; the Boers lost in the struggle, and the remainder of the campaign went against them. Though guilty at times of almost every offence against the usages of civilised war, the Boers at other times displayed a strange magnanimity; and though personally they showed few instances of marked courage, as a whole in tactical knowledge and perseverance they fully equalled their assailants. At all events they were unsuccessful, and after the relief of Kimberley by the British troops had perforce to begin a steady retrogressive march. Slowly but surely the British army pushed on. It was but a short time till Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange State, was occupied, and STEYN the President was a fugitive, but the country was not actually occupied for more than two months, when Harrismith, that had from the beginning of the war been a source of trouble to the English forces, was finally occupied, and with this the entire of the former Orange Free State passed under British rule. Meanwhile Lord ROBERTS had invaded the Transvaal, and, as in the former case, had

taken the capital, and expelled the President, PAUL KRUGER, who, following the example set by his neighbour, instead of surrendering to save further bloodshed, preferred the less straightforward course of peregrinating the country, in order to keep the irreconcilable faction up to the collar. It is a curious fact, and a strange tribute to the fairness of the British Government, that both these men, though sought after personally to give account of their own connection with certain questionable proceedings, have elected to leave their wives under British protection rather than trust them within their own lines. It would, however, be manifestly unfair to judge the actions of a general in the field, who with everything against him has yet contrived to make a good stand, and at one time, according to his lights, not altogether without the hope of a successful issue, by the same rules as we apply to civilians as KRUGER and STEYN; and hence, though the policy of the latter in urging on a hopeless and useless resistance, the impracticability of a successful issue for which they had full means of knowing, renders them, according to all law and practice, personally liable for the consequences; it has at all periods been customary to allow a wider latitude to the leaders actually engaged in the war. The position of the Transvaal at the moment is not unlike that of the Orange territory after the occupation of Bloemfontein; that is to say that while the capital and the entire west and south are in the hands of the British, who have assumed the administration of government, there is still a wide extent of mountainous country in the north-east into which the British troops have not yet penetrated. In this country there is a danger of the war which, after the capture of the capitals, began to assume an irregular and partisan character, degenerating into the mere guerilla stage. It has in fact arrived at the position when the truest patriot may well begin to ask himself whether a further display of hostility may not engender on his country worse evils than a frank acknowledgment of honourable defeat. Posterity has always reserved its admiration for the men who, in the interest of his country, has unreservedly accepted fate, rather than for him who to his country's ruin has prolonged a hopeless strife, and engendered feelings of lasting hate which it may require generations of peaceful intercourse to eradicate. Much then as a generous public may admire the self devotion of men like DEWEY and BOTHA, it is not of such that the great heroes of the world have been made. SCHAMYL in the Caucasus, in his courageous stand against the Russian attack on his country, gained the admiration of the world. When, however, baffled and defeated, he at last had to submit to the Russian army, and did so with a good grace, it is doubtful if he did not attain to still higher admiration. To fight boldly till the death, if necessary, is but one of the characteristics of a patriot; to submit faithfully and unreservedly when resistance is no longer for the good of his country, is a second, and in no respect inferior, quality of the man who loves his country. It may remain a moot point whether Kossuth deserved best of his country in his armed resistance to Austria in 1848, or in his submission in 1860.

At the Singapore Municipal Council a member gave notice that at the next meeting he would raise the question as to whether, in the event of a committee proving that they have raised sufficient funds for the building of a theatre, the Commissioners are prepared to lease at a nominal rent sufficient area for the purpose at the Coleman Street end of the recently purchased Esplanade property.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 30th August, 10.18 p.m.

It is reported that Yu Hsien, Governor of Shansi Province, has murdered thirty refugee missionaries in his yamen at Taiyuanfu.

600 French marines, one battery of mountain guns, and 160 Annamite soldiers landed here to-day. They were played to the French Settlement by the bagpipers of the Baluchi Regiment.

Chang Chih-tung is sending deputies to Shanghai to endeavour to arrest the reformers whose names were found in the lists seized at Hankow after the discovery of the so-called rebellion.

SHANGHAI, 31st August, 10.40 p.m.

The notorious reactionary Chao Shuchiao has been appointed by the rebel government to proceed on a tour to investigate the conduct of Viceroy Liu Kung-yi. The latter is alarmed and has summoned Li Hung-chang and Sheng to Nanking to consult with him.

It is necessary that the Allies should soon take strong measures to support the friendly viceroys.

There is no news from Peking. It is curious that messages cannot pass safely between Peking and Tientsin.

The wires between Chefoo and Shanghai are reported to have been broken by thunderstorms.

DAITOTET, 1st September, 10.5 a.m.

The Japanese troops which were going to Amoy have returned to Taipeh.

AMOY, 1st September, 2.25 p.m.

H.M.S. *Mohawk* and U.S.S. *Castine* have arrived here. The place is now quiet, and the exodus is falling quickly.

SHANGHAI, 2nd September, 12 p.m.

Several members of the Customs staff at Peking have arrived at Shanghai to-day. They are all right but tell a long story of hard work, privation, and a gallant defence.

Fortunately there were large stores of champagne and whisky in the Legation, but the only meat was two horses daily.

The relief arrived just in the nick of time. A mine was discovered under the Legation, which it was intended to explode next day.

Great indignation prevails over the Russian proposal for withdrawal from Peking.

SHANGHAI, 3rd September, 9.44 p.m.

The latest Imperial Decree, dated Huaijen-hien, Shansi, 21st August, confirms Li Hung-chang's plenary powers as peacemaker.

Viceroy Liu Kung-yi seems ignorant of the Empress's address. He has sent trusty messengers to Peking, Shantung, Honan, Shansi, and Moukden, with orders not to return without the exact address.

750 German troops are landing here in a few days to assist in the defence.

SHANGHAI, 4th September, 8.8 p.m.

The Emperor and Empress-Dowager have arrived in Shansi, at the Governor's Yamen at Taiyuanfu, on the 30th ult.

Yung Lu has been appointed plenary peacemaker with Li Hung-chang. This is absolutely farcical, as Yung Lu is the author of the scheme to employ the "Boxers" to destroy the foreigners.

Four Christian mission compounds have been outraged at Chian, Kiangsi, on the 1st

instant. The missionaries have been rescued by the officials and escorted into safety.

Many of the Peking besieged garrison have arrived in Shanghai.

SHANGHAI, 5th August, 8.35 p.m.

The German Association at Shanghai has telegraphed to Prince Hohenlohe, protesting against the proposed withdrawal of the troops from Peking.

The Marquis Tseng and thirty high Chinese officials at Peking have telegraphed to Li Hung-chang begging him to go to Peking promptly and assume the interim government.

Hsu Tung has also been appointed peacemaker on behalf of China; but illness prevents Prince Ching from serving.

AMOY, 6th September, 7.50 p.m.

The Japanese have arranged to embark at night and the British in the morning. The people are returning. Business is at a standstill, but all is quiet.

SHANGHAI, 6th September, 8.40 p.m.

500 German troops landed to-day. They are very fine young fellows. They were played to quarters by the Indian bagpipers.

Chungking reports that 40 Kueiyang missionaries have arrived all right. 60 from Kansu are overdue, causing anxiety here.

The Russians are reported to have restored the Newchwang Customs to China.

CASUALTIES OF THE NORTH CHINA FIELD FORCE.

The following full list of casualties with the North China Field Force, up to 24th August, has been received by wire from Peking, 31st August, and has been forwarded to us by H.E. the Governor:—

Peitsang, 5th August.—12th Field Battery, 3 men slightly wounded.

R.W.F., 1,366 Colour-Sergt. Jones, slightly wounded.

Hongkong Artillery, 554 Gunner Santa Singh, severely wounded.

Hongkong Regt., slightly wounded, 9 Naick Bhinan, 1,117 Lance Naick Fuiz Ahmed, 127 Private Halibulla, 1,023 Private Muhaned Shah.

Casualties among native troops, one man killed, 3 native officers slightly wounded; rank and file, dangerously wounded one, severely wounded eight, slightly wounded three.

Yangtsung, 6th August.—1st Sikhs, 2nd Lieut. Costello, dangerously wounded, knee joints, doing well.

R.W.F., killed, 5,075 Private T. Morgan; died of sunstroke, 5,488 Private W. Huddleston. Dangerously wounded, 3,522 Private O. Jones. Severely wounded, Privates 4,901 W. Doyle, 4,533 J. Hughes, 3,933 J. Jones. Slightly wounded, 3,803 William Edwards, 3,748 C. Vickery, 4,725 J. W. William, 4,151 J. Dirdar.

Casualties among Indian native troops, rank and file, killed 5, dangerously wounded 3, severely wounded 20, slightly wounded 6.

8th August.—One man native regiment accidentally drowned.

9th August.—Indian native troops, two men slightly wounded.

14th August.—R.M.L.I. 2,782 Lance Sergt. J. H. Dadd, died of heart disease.

Indian native troops, rank and file, severely wounded 2, slightly wounded one, missing one.

16th August.—Indian native troops, one man slightly wounded.

20th August.—1st Bengal Lancers, Lieut. Macaulay and one man slightly wounded.

SUPREME COURT.

SEPTEMBER 4TH.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE
SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)CAPTAIN RAYMOND AND THE FILIPINOS—
JUDGMENT.

The Acting Puisne Judge gave judgment as follows:—

During December, 1899, one Lichauco and one Raymond negotiated that the latter party should take two launches to Manila for the former party. The results of the negotiations were embodied in a written document dated 4th July, 1900. The launches were not taken to Manila. In pursuance of a term in the document, Lichauco advanced \$700 to Raymond and now claims an account of the disbursements of that \$700, with a return of any balance that may be found to be due to him on the taking of such account. To this claim Raymond has furnished an account of the uses to which he put the \$700. Raymond also claims from Lichauco a sum of \$500 as damages for breach of contract respecting, (*inter alia*) the navigation by him from Hongkong to Manila of the said two launches. Lichauco's suit and Raymond's cross-suit were heard together on the 28th August.

The case for Lichauco is that the document of the 4th January was signed on the terms that it should not be an agreement until Raymond had obtained certain clearance papers from the U.S. Consul-General in Hongkong to enable the launches to enter Manila, and that, as Raymond did not procure such papers, the document had not yet operated as a contract. If Lichauco could convince the Court that the transaction between him and Raymond was of this nature, then there is the authority of the cases of *Pym v. Campbell* 6 E and B 370 and *Wallis v. Littell* 11 C.B.N.S. 369 that the admission of evidence to show that there was not an agreement at all is allowable. It becomes then a question of fact whether the alleged suspensory condition precedent existed or not. The evidence is conflicting, but the balance is in favour of Raymond.

Lichauco says: "Raymond undertook to take out clearances," and "it was agreed between Raymond and me that he should get clearances: after this I signed the contract." On the other hand M. Marti, who acted as interpreter between the parties, says: "Raymond offered to do his best to clear the launch" and "Raymond was to do his best to get the clearance papers. Did not say it was his duty. Raymond promised to do his best to help Lichauco. Raymond was to help Lichauco and try to get clearances for him." Then Raymond says: "Lichauco asked me to go to the Consul to try to get papers myself. I went. Consul refused papers. I told Lichauco this. This occurred on 5th or 6th January. Lichauco then said. I'll go: and, I undertook to try to get papers for Lichauco. . . It was not in the contract. . . I said I'd try to get the papers. Did not say I would." Upon this evidence I have arrived at the opinion that there was no oral contract, such as that alleged, suspending the written document from the beginning from operating as a contract. Indeed if such a suspensory collateral contract existed, I cannot explain why Raymond and Lichauco proceeded to part performance of the terms of the document, the one by providing coal, other necessities, a crew and provisions, the other by advancing a sum of \$700.

Nor, on the supposition that Raymond was to obtain clearances before the document operated as a contract, is it easy to explain why Lichauco's solicitors, on the 2nd February last, wrote of their client that "he will despatch the steam launch *Patria* as soon as he obtains the necessary clearance papers," but made no mention of the alleged collateral contract which bound Raymond to procure the clearances. I am satisfied, therefore, that the written document of 4th January, 1900 contained the whole of the terms of the agreement between the parties and was a contract binding upon both sides.

Next as to the question of the impossibility of performing the contract. On the

9th March, 1900, Lichauco's solicitors wrote to Raymond's solicitors that "it appears now to be impossible for either party to carry out the contract for the taking over to Manila by your client of the steam launch *Patria*." The cause assigned for impossibility of performance was of course the inability to secure the requisite papers. On behalf of Raymond the contention at the bar was that the impossibility if any was caused by the failure of Lichauco to procure the necessary papers, for Lichauco the contention was that the act of the U.S. Consul-General in Hongkong in refusing to grant clearances, was the cause of the impossibility of performance.

In my judgment neither Lichauco's failure to procure the proper papers nor the U. S. Consul-General's refusal to supply such papers rendered the performance of the contract impossible. The absence of these papers may have rendered it improbable that the whole contract could be performed: but such absence did not render it impossible for Lichauco either to require Raymond to go on board or to give Raymond instructions to start on his voyage, nor for Raymond to coal, provision and man the launches, and sail them to Manila. The most that can be said is that the delivery of the launches at Manila seemed to Lichauco to be very improbable. But no degree of improbability can amount to an impossibility. The delivery at Manila to the parties named in the contract might have been frustrated by the U.S. Authorities at Manila: whereupon the acts required by the fifth clause of the contract would have become impossible of performance. Nevertheless it is possible, though not probable, that had the launches reached Manila, the U.S. officials there would not have interfered so as to render the terms as to delivery inoperative. It cannot be said that impossibility of performance had arisen until the delivery under the contract had proved to be impossible. I hold therefore that no impossibility of performance has been established.

This being so, and both parties having fulfilled some of the promises made by them, the one, Lichauco, by advancing \$700 under clause 6 of the contract, and the other, Raymond, by furnishing coal, provisions and crew under clauses 3 and 4 of the contract, it remains to inquire into the legal relation of the parties to each other. No time is mentioned within which the contract is to be performed. In *Hick v. Raymond* [1893] Appeal cases at p. 32 Lord Watson says "when the language of a contract does not expressly or by necessary implication, fix any time for the performance of a contractual obligation, the law implies that it shall be performed within a reasonable time. The rule is of general application."

A reasonable time means a reasonable time under the circumstances, (see *Ford v. Cotesworth* L.R. 4 Q.B. 127.) The date of the contract was 4th January, 1900. Between that date and the issue of the writ on 23rd July, there was ample time for the performance of the contract. The acts of coaling &c., done by Raymond were necessary preliminaries to starting on the voyage to Manila within twelve hours of his receiving instructions so to do. He did all that he could do and was prevented from proceeding to fulfil the rest of his obligations by the omission of Lichauco to give the orders contemplated in the first clause of the contract. Lichauco was bound to give those orders within a reasonable time, but failed to fulfil this obligation. He is therefore in the position of a party who, in the course of performance of a contract, under which both parties have done something, has refused to continue to perform his part: whereupon the other party is exonerated from any further performance of his promises and may immediately bring an action for damages for breach of the special contract, and also sue for a quantum meruit or the value of the services already rendered by him.

In his cross-suit Raymond claims \$500 as the damages sustained by him for the breach of the special contract. He has lost the profits which would have been the immediate fruits of the contract between him and Lichauco. These profits were stated by him to be about \$1,100. The terms of the present contract by which he was to receive \$2,200 do not seem to be at variance with this statement. The Court accordingly allows his claim of \$500 for damages.

I now pass to consider the claim of Lichauco against Raymond for an account of the expenditure of the \$700 advanced to Raymond and the return of the unexpended balance. Such an account was rendered by Raymond and the items of that account are allowed by Lichauco with the exception of the item of \$265.25 on account of Raymond's salary at \$500 a month. But I shall not decide whether this item is admissible in the account furnished by Raymond because I am of the opinion that there are no circumstances of the case which admit of this suit for an account being maintained. At the common law an action of account lay in two classes of cases, viz: those of privity in deed or in law and those of matters between merchants. Neither of these classes embraces the present case. In equity, jurisdiction was assumed in an action for an account where a fiduciary relation, such as that of principal and agent, existed between the parties; or where there were mutual accounts between the plaintiff and the defendant; or where there were circumstances of great complication. Here there are no circumstances of great complication, and the parties are not related to each other as principal and agent. Nor are there mutual accounts between the parties, i.e. each of the parties has not received and also paid on the other's account. The best case, apparently, that Lichauco can make out is that Raymond has received and paid moneys on his account.

I do not say that such a case has been made out. That is a question upon which I give no decision. In my judgment, accordingly, Lichauco has no right to maintain this action against Raymond and I nonsuit him with costs. Judgment will be for Raymond in his cross suit with costs.

Mr. E. H. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) appeared for Captain Raymond and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the other parties.

THE ENTRY INTO PEKING.

FULL DETAILS OF THE CAPTURE.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FINAL STROKE.

Peking, 16th August.

There was a council of war held by the International Commanders on the 12th inst., when it was determined that the Allied Forces should concentrate within six miles of Peking by the 14th inst. and make a grand assault on the 15th. Everything was prepared for this final stroke, which has so far been very satisfactory, considering the conditions under which such a large force of mixed troops has to be handled; where, if success crowns the operations, unstinted praise and admiration are held out to the favoured few, yet where non-success is the result, unstinted abuse is hurled at almost every individual unit's commanders. Yet it has struck me that most of the operations have been brought to a success by the skill, energy and pluck of the latter. This conclusion is brought clearly to the front to anyone who has followed the conduct of warfare waged by mixed troops—with mixed opinions held by their respective leaders. For it appears that, although certain agreements were arrived at when the council of war was held, I believe that I am correct in saying that only the Anglo-Saxon contingents respected them in the spirit as well as in the letter, and that Peking defended by disciplined troops reasonably armed would not now be in our hands in consequence, as it is now generally asserted that practically independent action was taken by some of the contingents—perhaps, for obvious reasons, not necessary to mention at this stage of the campaign. The British force worked principally in conjunction with the Americans under General Caffee. The troops marched from Tungchow in a great heat wave on the 14th to the places from which the attack was to be delivered, and were very much done up.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF FORCES.

The disposition of the forces were made as follows:—The Russians were to proceed by a road about 2,000 yards distant from the right bank of the river, the Japanese on the right bank, the Americans on the left bank, the British about three-quarters of a mile to the extreme left

on a shockingly bad road, so much so that the naval guns could not be brought that way, but followed the Americans and did not get into action when the city itself was entered.

THE ATTACK AND CAPTURE.

The general impression was that the whole force would begin to move simultaneously, but the Russians apparently thought themselves strong enough to venture to enter the golden city first, and moved out after dark and was attacking at midnight. They found, however, a strong and vigorous enemy in front of them who repelled all attempts to carry that particular position. The Russian general had to send to the Japanese to support him, they being in the most suitable position for complying; but they did not force their way into the city until late in the day, a long time after some of the Allies. The Americans moved out late in the evening, the British at 3.30 a.m., reaching their position at 7 a.m. having proceeded cautiously to prevent any ambush. The attack on the S.E. gate of the Chinese City was commenced, and the 17th Rajputs and 24th Punjab Infantry broke down the gate and rushed it. There was practically no opposition at this point, as the Chinese had not expected an attack from this quarter, considering that the road by which we had come was impassable. The R.W.F. and 1st Sikhs quickly followed the others, supported by cavalry and artillery. We now heard heavy firing on our right, which proved to be the Americans attacking. Some cavalry and the 24th Punjab Infantry were sent to the "Temple of Heaven" to protect our left flank, whilst all the others proceeded in the direction of the Legations by side streets, meeting with little or no resistance, and arrived at the canal opposite the Watergate, or sluice, and were signalled to by the people holding the wall by the Legations at 3 p.m. General Gaselee and his staff, with about 200 native troops, rushed across the moat and entered through the Watergate, without incurring any loss, and found that inside the Legation all were looking and behaving as if it was an every day function. There was no trace of anxiety on their features, and an absolute absence of that form of appearance one expects to find in a beleaguered garrison, surrounded by a horde of fiends. Sir Claude MacDonald was quite well, as also was nearly every member who had found an asylum inside the Legation, and he quickly showed the General what steps had been taken to put the place in a position of safety from attack. All had been admirably planned. Of course they were immensely pleased to be relieved from what had been a perilous position for Christians to be placed in. Soon everyone began to ask for news of the outside world whence we had come, of which we had little to give beyond our own small stock of information of present events, as we ourselves had also felt cut off from civilisation since leaving Tientsin. Our Field Artillery were brought up to fire on the Central Gate of the Tartar City, but a sortie made by the Americans and Russians had forestalled our intention to bombard and this gate also fell into the hands of the Allies. Two field-guns and about 400 men were kept at the Legation that night, being sniped at nearly the whole time, but no casualties occurred, as the defences gave ample cover and protection.

THE END OF A GREAT DAY'S WORK.

The Americans arrived at the Legations at 5 p.m., but moved out towards the Central Gate of the Tartar City to bivouac for the night. The British troops, other than those remaining at the Legation, were sent to the "Temple of Heaven," and during the evening were engaged with the enemy, on whom they inflicted a heavy loss, and eventually occupied the South Gate of the Chinese City. Our men were very fatigued, having performed a memorable day's work, and having marched nearly 20 miles from 3.30 a.m. that morning, besides the fighting and other work that had occupied them till a very late hour before they could rest their weary bones.

ON THE 16TH.

The French arrived here this morning and placed their guns on the City Wall and shelled the Imperial Palace for some time, but I cannot ascertain what damage they have done. The Americans took one gate of the Imperial City this morning and had many casualties, amongst whom was the commanding officer of their artillery—a very po-

pular and clever officer. Our troops did not attempt anything further to-day, as it was a great difficulty to find out where the whole of the Allied forces were stationed and what they were doing, and we heard of one instance where it was found the Allies were becoming dangerous amongst themselves from not knowing each other's whereabouts. There is to be another council of war held this afternoon, to decide on future action for clearing the cities, and some severe fighting is generally anticipated. It is difficult to ascertain what each contingent did yesterday or what their losses were; ours was very small; but I understand the Japanese lost heavily trying to blow down a gate with dynamite. Everyone who made the attempt during the daylight was shot down, and it had finally to be abandoned till dark, when I understand they blew it up.

Sniping continues freely, which makes it dangerous to get about for details of what has happened, or what one may expect may happen before Peking is finally in the hands of the Allies.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

The transport *Sumatra* arrived in the harbour on the 31st ult. from India, bringing with her the Staff of the Third Brigade, the headquarter Wing of the Jats, the Field Audit Office, and parts of the Native Field Hospital. There were altogether 20 British and 9 native officers, 453 N.C.O.'s and men, and 343 followers, with horses and mules.

The *Pentakota* and *Virawa* on the 31st ult. returned to Hongkong from Taku.

The transport *Salamis* sailed for Weihaiwei.

The German squadron has left the harbour, the *Worth* going direct to Weihaiwei on the 30th ult. and the other four vessels to Woosung on the 31st ult.

The *Comète*, French gunboat, left on the 31st ult. for Canton.

Two more transport arrived from India Monday morning, the *Pundua* and the *India*. The *Pundua* brought the Headquarter Wing of the 4th Punjab Infantry (6 British and 8 native officers, 367 N.C.O.'s and men, with 61 followers), and Signalling Units (1 British officer, 12 men, and 3 followers). The *India* brought the remainder of the Hyderabad Contingent (9 British and 9 native officers, 563 N.C.O.'s and men, with followers, horses, and mules), A and B Section Native Field Hospital (2 British officers, 12 N.C.O.'s and men, with 125 followers), and 3 men of the Intelligence Department. The 5th Hyderabad Regiment is added to the garrison of Hongkong.

The U. S. troopship *Pennsylvania* left on the 3rd inst. for Manila.

The 5th Hyderabad Infantry, who arrived on the 1st, disembarked on the 3rd, taking possession of the military mat-sheds at Kowloon.

The German transport *Schwalbe* arrived on the 3rd with troops on their way north.

On Tuesday the transport *Mombassa* departed for Taku.

The British transport *Nankin* returned on Wednesday from Weihaiwei.

The German cruiser *Schwalbe* left for Amoy.

The R. I. M. S. *Dalhousie* reached Hongkong from Madras on the 1st inst., bringing Lieut. Col. Welchman, Capt. Andain, Lieut. Tregear, Capt. Brown, I.M.S., eight native officers, and 441 rank and file of the 5th Hyderabad Infantry.

Later in the day the transport *Mombassa* arrived from Calcutta with B Section Native Field Hospital, a Postal Establishment and 259 Siege Train bullocks. A British officer was in charge of each detail, and 243 followers in all accompanied them.

By the P. & O. mail steamer *Clyde* there arrived 12 officers and 270 men for service in China. The troops, who all came direct from home, mainly comprise Royal Garrison Artillery, drawn from the Eastern, Southern and Western Divisions; but in addition there are 25 men of the Royal Army Medical Corps from Aldershot, 1 officer and 41 men Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery from Woolwich, and details of Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Royal Engineers, and Army Ordnance Department. The Garrison Artillery number 6 officers and nearly 200 rank and file.

The transport *Nerbudda* brought 12 officers of the 6th Bengal Infantry and 482 N.C.O.'s and men.

The German transports *Halle* and *Dresden* also arrived on the 1st, the former bringing 24 officers and 530 rank and file for service in the North, the latter 47 officers and 930 rank and file. During the day the men swarmed all over the city, their glaring yellow uniforms and big straw hats attracting much attention and comment. Both transports left on the 2nd.

The *Nowshera* arrived from Weihaiwei and the *Canning* from Woosung.

The *Pentakota* and *Virawa* left Hongkong on the 1st for Calcutta.

The French cruiser *Cachar* returned on the 1st from Taku.

The storeship *Humber* left on the 1st for Shanghai and the hospital ship *Maine* started for Taku on the same day.

REMAINDER OF HONGKONG REGIMENT GO NORTH.

The remainder of the Hongkong Regiment (between 400 and 500) and the Native Field Hospitals embarked on the R. I. M. S. *Dalhousie* and the transport *India* yesterday at 11.30 a.m. at the Kowloon Wharf for Weihaiwei. The following particulars were published in Wednesday's General Orders:—"The Headquarters and Right Wing, with Major Kanga, I.M.S. (who has been detailed to proceed in medical charge of the Regiment) and one hospital assistant (to be detailed by the Principal Medical Officer) will embark on the *Dalhousie*, while the Left Wing, and the two sections 61st Native Field Hospital, will embark on the *India*. The one hundred and twenty pack-mules, now on the *India*, will proceed with the troopers, any followers who may be required being drawn from those disembarked with the 5th Infantry Hyderabad Contingent. The heavy baggage is to be sent on board both vessels by two o'clock this afternoon. Camp equipment on approved scale will be drawn from the Army Ordnance Department, while land transport will be provided by the O. C. A. S. C."

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin 16th August.

PEKING NEWS—AND LACK OF NEWS.

Until to-day our last Peking news was from Mr. Pethick, so well known for his brilliant scholarship and his long intimacy with Li Hung-chang. He stated that the foreigners had still rice and horseflesh for three weeks, but that the native Christians in the Pei T'ang were dying in great numbers from starvation—having only rice husks to eat, and the children going first as usual. Mr. Pethick was anxious that the Relief Column should press on and give no heed to Chinese threats of exterminating the Legations and their defenders.

Ever since the Column left Tientsin thirteen days ago very little news has come from the front. We British folk put it down to the stupidity of our Censorial Department and to the malign influence of red-tape. There is absolutely no justification for nine-tenths of the "censure" exercised, in messages, telegrams, &c.; and the general costiveness of the Military Intelligence Department reflects little credit on their commonsense. The Japanese and Americans sensibly recognize the demands of an anxious public, and freely give away all the news they can: the news as a rule more intimately concerns their people, and says very little about ours. It has yet to be explained why telegrams are pouring through Tientsin for the New York papers, and yet nothing has come down from English sources for our own Press.

The Honan troops have arrived here after their six weeks' tramp from the South West. A great body (5,000) passed to our Northward yesterday; and another lot has attached itself to a big Boxer entrenchment six miles from our Settlement. A reconnoitring force of seventy-five troopers of the U. S. 6th Regiment and twenty-five Bengal Lancers came in touch with them three days ago: our folk were nearly ambushed, being fired at from less than 300 yards by many hundreds of rifles. There were, however, no casualties, though there was one very gallant

THE N.S.W. NAVAL CONTINGENT.

The other day we gave a few particulars regarding the career of Captain Hixson, R. N., who now commands the New South Wales Naval Contingent in the North, and inasmuch as the appearance of the Colonials here has aroused considerable interest, a few particulars concerning the history of the Naval Brigade, taken from the *Sydney Mail* of August 11th, may not be uninteresting.

The Brigade was enrolled in 1863, shortly after Captain Hixson relinquished his connection with the Navy, and he was appointed to command the force, and has been its popular head ever since. The first muster was on Flagstaff Hill, when the force only numbered 20 men. Small as the beginning was, it soon gained in strength. The membership increased year by year until the Russian scare of a few years ago, when it numbered over 600.

In the year 1886 the Naval Artillery Volunteer Company was placed under Captain Hixson's command. This corps had been formed for the purpose of manning H.M.S. *Volterrine*. At that time the vessel was taken periodically for short trips to sea. While under Captain Hixson's command complimentary reports from several of the Admirals on the station from time to time as to the general efficiency of the brigade were received. The vessel on becoming obsolete was sold out of the service.

The combined naval forces under the captain's command number between 500 and 600 men, and they are universally popular.

The command of the force in China devolves on Lieutenant Gillespie, R.N., of H.M.S. *Mildura*. At Hongkong Captain Hixson was to report the arrival of the N.S.W. contingent to the senior officer on the station. Sub-Lieutenants S. Lambton, N.B., and J. G. Lindeman, N.B., go with the contingent as special service officers.

Among the officers in the brigade are three of Captain Hixson's sons, two of whom have been appointed to the commands of the companies. Another of the captain's sons is in command of the naval force at Bundaberg, Queensland. Each of these officers joined the ranks as a junior and has worked his way up by steady application and study.

The strength is 216, to which a stretcher bearer company of 16 and a party of marines 25 strong have been added.

It has been decided to make an advance of one month's pay to each man, so that some provision will be made for their wives or families. The rate of pay is understood to be 7s. 6d. per day.

PERSECUTION ON THE WEST RIVER.

Another case of bitter persecution and torture has just reached us from the West River. In the little village of Ping-Nam, lying close to the banks of the river, there resided up till a few weeks ago quite a large number of native Christians. They pursued their various callings generally unmolested, although at times they met with the jibes and jeers of those who came into the village from the neighbouring towns to sell their wares or otherwise to carry out their business transactions. To these taunts they paid no heed, and consequently disregarded the daily increasing hostile attitude shown to them by the soldiery as well as civilians. Among these native Christians was a man of middle age who was a colporteur for the American Bible Society, and who made constant journeys to the neighbouring towns and villages to sell his books. He happened to be on one of his tours last month when the authorities of Kwangai received that imperating death bearing call from Peking of "Down with the Foreigner." He went on his way unheeding the enraged people till he reached Hing-Yan Fu, where he was immediately set upon, his books taken from him and burnt before his eyes; his money and clothes stolen, and the latter torn to pieces, while he was lacerated till blood flowed profusely from his lacerated flesh. He managed, after a severe struggle, to get away from his torturers and ran almost nude to the Yamen for assistance. Instead of that, however, he was at once formally charged with an offence against the law, bound in heavy chains, beaten by a sort of rattan across the legs till he could scarcely stand, and then hurled into prison to the immense delight of the assembled mob, fired into

murderous fury by the commands of their superiors. Towards the end of the next day the soldiers appeared, and publicly aimed blows at him with their fists, sticks, and bamboos, till he fell exhausted, and was dragged from the prison to the street like a vanquished bull from the arena. There in the blazing sun he was left for a few hours, when the soldiery took him among other prisoners down the river in a boat. When they reached Lan Chan Fu, the Magistrate in whose charge they were placed, behaved very kindly to the colporteur, and at once ordered the chains to be taken from his neck and legs, and his wounds bound up. There he was attended to for some little time till he was able to be sent to his home.

NEWCHWANG.

Further particulars, as detailed by an eye-witness of the attack on Newchwang on the 4th ult. (of which we have already published a brief account), show that the Boxers and the soldiery were kept at the houses and courtyards of the mandarins and leading merchants until they could be reinforced sufficiently in their own opinion to make a successful onslaught upon the foreigners in the town and beyond. In this they were altogether disappointed, for it was early in the morning when the alarm was raised, and by dawn every one was on the *qui-vive*. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's assistants, Messrs. Edgar and West, were aroused, and Mr. Lister gave the alarm to the Russian consulate. Thus fully alive to the situation they "stood by" to await developments. It was fully a quarter past seven before the Boxers started to move inwards, and amid the waving of swords (with which alone they were armed) swept on towards the barrier on the Bund opposite Mr. Edgar's former bowling alley. There they made a determined stand until they were compelled to beat a retreat before the fully armed volunteers, whose shots were sure and had a telling effect upon the enemy. Their leaders were the first to fall, and that disheartened them, causing them to flee in all directions. The Russian sailors joined in the defence, and they, with the volunteers, saved the situation. The Russian gunboat fired over the city, and at the retreating soldiers as they ran beyond the mud wall over the open plain. Then both Boxers and soldiers made for the forts, and a great slaughter followed; the Russian shells meeting them and bursting between their ranks simply played sad havoc with them. It was towards the end of the battle that the British, and other allied troops, entered Newchwang, but beyond the pursuit of a few stragglers there was practically nothing to be done but await a second attack. That however never came, and the enemy has not been seen since for miles round. It has been estimated that there were eleven Boxers killed and 50 wounded. The Boxer leader was handed over to the Russians, who had him shot by a firing party in the usual way. A somewhat amusing story is told of a volunteer who was attired in side arms, and who was seated on the barrier above mentioned, with six others not so armed, just as the enemy was approaching. "Let us charge and bayonet them," cried he, and they all rose to fall in line when to their intense dismay and amusement found they were without side-arms.

HANKOW.

Hankow is reported quiet again, in spite of the efforts of scaremongers. The execution of the reformers by order of Chang Chih-tung occasioned a large crop of rumours, but nothing further has come of the matter so far. The folly of the sensationalists is strongly commented on by a correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, who writes from Hankow on the 28th ult.:—"It takes but one word of idle, alarming rumour to frighten the Chinese. The well-disposed and well-ordered amongst them look to us for example, and what wonder is it that they get alarmed? And once frightened, it is hard to knock the idea of fear out of their heads. Britishers have little to be proud of in China just now. It was they who started the Wenchow and Chungking cowardly scuttles and the hasty and ill-timed flight of the British women and children from the Yangtze ports. Ladies of other nationalities are living quietly at the various ports. Comment is needless."

Another correspondent reports the safe arrival on the 22nd at the China Inland Mission of a

large party of English Baptist and C. I. M. missionaries. They had travelled from Shansi with little trouble. In places where trouble and incivility were expected, they continued their journey unmolested. Not till they reached Houchouhsien, not fifty miles above Hankow, did they meet with serious abuse or threats. Here their cards were presented to the station for permit to pass, and were greeted with threatened decapitation of their owners, and instead of the usual quick access, their boats were detained and stamped. The Consul will doubtless see that such treatment is not repeated. H. M. S. *Pique* was still at Hankow at the end of the month.

WEIHAIWEI.

The *N.C. Daily News* correspondent writes:—

The events of the past few weeks have changed the aspect of things in Weihaiwei. On the mainland the Chinese Regiment has disappeared, leaving behind it empty barracks and quarters with a slowly growing detachment of recruits. For a few days one of the now empty buildings was occupied by a company of the 24th Punjab Infantry, numbering between sixty and seventy men. Later these men were replaced by ninety odd men of the 1st Madras Pioneers. From Flagstaff the Marines have gone to join the Naval Brigade with the Peking Relief Force, a few Indians taking their place. On the Island, on the other hand, all is stir and bustle. The naval people have taken the iron pier in hand, and are decking it with timber. Divers are busily engaged removing the remains of old ironclads from the immediate neighbourhood, so that transports and store ships of deep draft may come alongside. This work was started by Admiral Seymour on his return from Tientsin. A thousand pities something had not been done earlier—a remark that applies to many things in Weihaiwei besides the pier. To the eastward, on that part of the Island under exclusively military control, a new stone pier to give a depth of three or four feet at low water is rapidly approaching completion. This is intended to facilitate the landing of stores for the use of the land forces. To the east of the town on the Island and to the west of the East Village, is a great camp, canvas on every hand.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN LEAVE PEKING.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *Nagasaki Press* telegraphs on the 29th ult.:—

The wives of the diplomats and all the women and children who were besieged in Peking, are on their way to Tientsin, escorted by a body of Japanese marines. From the latter port, the [Japanese] refugees will be conveyed to Japan in a transport or a cruiser.

MORE MISSIONARIES FROM SHANSI.

The following has been received from Hankow:—"Yesterday, the 28th, the following C.I.M. missionaries arrived at Hankow from Pingyangfu, travelling through Homan: Mr. and Mrs. A. Latley, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. H. Dreyer, Misses J. F. Hoskyn, A. Hoskyn, E. C. Johnson, E. French, E. Gauntlett, E. Higgs, R. Palmer, and K. Rasmussen. Mr. and Mrs. Latley's two children died during the journey."

A correspondent in the north writes to us about a very genuine grievance. A letter to him from Shanghai reached Tientsin after 47 days; another from Taku to Tientsin (28 miles) took 19 days; and his own letters to the south for the most part have never reached the addressees at all. "The truth is," he says, "the people on the American and English war vessels have treated our mails with contempt and with the grossest carelessness. Ward room officers have privately confessed to the opening of letters, but whether this was in the exercise of military censorship I do not know. Such would be their probable defence if their conduct were impugned." Correspondents' letters taken direct to Headquarters or given to prominent officers, he continues, have fared even worse than those treated in the ordinary way. The safest means of conveying letters is to entrust them to the German or Japanese post office. There is certainly something in this matter which requires explanation.

THE NEW ROYAL NAVAL CANTEEN.

OPENING BY MRS. POWELL.

Nos. 1 and 2, Blue Buildings, Praya East, which have been fitted up as the new Royal Naval Canteen, were formally opened on Thursday evening by Mrs. Powell in the presence of a large company, including H.E. the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.), Lady Blake, Miss Blake, and Viscount Suidale; Commodore Powell, the Misses Powell, and Mr. F. G. Mottson, R.N.; H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., Mrs. Gascoigne, and Captain the Hon. H. W. Trefusis; Colonel the O'Gorman; Bishop Hoare, the Rev. Father P. de Maria, Chaplain Good, the Rev. C. Bone, Colonel Brown, Major Everett, Commander Plenderleath, Deputy Inspector General Bolston, the Hon. Basil Taylor (Acting Harbour Master), the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Mr. D. Gillies, and Mr. Owen Ordish. The interior of the building was plentifully decorated with flags, and the band of H.M.S. *Argonaut* was in attendance and gave selections of music.

The new premises are a distinct improvement on the old ones in Queen's Road West, both as regards situation and internal arrangements, everything having been done to provide for the recreation and comfort of those by whom they are to be frequented. There are two blocks, one being for the chief and petty officers and the other for the men. Both are provided with billiard table, bars, reading rooms, dining rooms, and bedrooms and baths, whilst behind the men's block a fine bowling-alley is being got ready. Mr. J. Board is the manager.

After Mrs. Powell had formally opened the door leading into the men's block, the different rooms were inspected and came in for a considerable amount of praise.

Subsequently Commodore POWELL addressed a few words to the company. After expressing his pleasure at seeing so many ladies and gentlemen present, he said the Institute was started in 1887 in the old premises in Queen's Road West, which went for some years under the name of the Royal Seamen's and Marines' Club. It was thought advisable afterwards to change the title in order to make it uniform with that at Malta and to try to get a uniform title for all the places of a similar character which they had scattered about the world. When he came here at first the idea was to build a bigger building, but they could not find a site. There was an idea after the extension of the dockyard they could get room for a building facing Butterfield and Swire's offices, but they were informed that the space would be required by the Victoria Recreation Club, and that idea fell through. They then consulted with the people who had the letting of houses, and Mr. Chater and his company offered them these premises. First of all they asked for one block, the price of which was \$60,000, but that would have hardly given them more accommodation than the old place, and ultimately they agreed to take the two for \$120,000. At that time they had some \$30,000 in the bank and the Admiralty gave them £3,000, which they promptly changed into dollars. This made about \$60,000. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had very generously given them 5 per cent interest on this, and agreed to advance them what they required to make up the \$120,000 which they required at 5 per cent. The fittings, etc., had cost something like \$25,000, which made about \$80,000, which they required from the bank. In connection with the premises were four godowns. One was to be made into a bowling-alley, two others were rented by the C. P. R. Company, and they would have another to let soon, and the rent they would derive from these godowns would go towards meeting the deficiency. Then the Admiralty had promised them another £1,000 if they would raise a like sum among themselves, and he hoped they would be able to do this before the end of the financial year. The Colonial Government had come forward and very kindly promised them \$300 a year. He asked them to remit the rates and taxes, but was told that that was not possible, although if a military officer took a house that fact entitled the owner to their remission. At present the rates and taxes would amount to about \$1,200 a year. They pur-

posed making their own mineral waters, and if anybody wanted to come to a good place for mineral waters they could not do better than patronise them. They could be supplied at 40 cents per dozen. One other thing which they wanted was a pier, where men could land from the ships and return to them without having to pass other institutions which existed about the town and which might not be of so respectable a character. After observing that by and by they would be able to provide some 200 or 230 beds, the Commodore concluded and expressed his thanks to those who had attended for their presence.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR congratulated them most heartily on the opening of this institution. He thought an institution like this was very much required. The Commodore had let him have it rather hard about the question of taxation, but he thought on the other hand when they remembered that the Colonial Government had made a present to the Navy of something like \$1,500,000 and all the land they had got for the extensions, no one could complain of their want of generosity to the Navy. (Hear, hear.) He thought this was the best proof he could give them that it was not for want of sympathy with them that he had refused to remit taxes which really he had no right to remit. He thought that almost the last thing which Lady Blake did before they left Jamaica was to start a fund and put £170 into the hands of the Commodore and General for the express purpose of starting such an institution as that for the benefit of the men coming over from Port Royal to Kingston, which did not possess any respectable place for the men to go to. He might add that when their excellent mineral water manufactory had attained large dimensions and turned out a large amount of mineral waters in the future, he would give them a distinct promise that their assessment should not be increased. He again congratulated them heartily on their new premises, and he wished the institution every success in the future. The proceedings then terminated.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 1st September.

CANTON REVENUE GOES NORTH.

The Chinese officials at Canton have received a telegram from the commissary authority of Chinkiang, requiring them to transmit the Canton revenue thither, so that it may be sent up north for war expenses. The Provincial Treasurer and the Salt Commissioner have been called upon by wire to remit 150,000 taels each, and all the officials, from the Viceroy down to the mandarins of the lowest grade, have had their pay forfeited during the continuance of war. This, of course, is Chinese law.

THE SUPPRESSION OF NEWSPAPERS.

A printing office known as Hon Wan Kok, in Tai Sun Street, was on the 27th ult. seized by the Nam Hoi Magistrate for printing 3,000 copies of seditious placards. The printers were tried the following day, eleven being discharged and one, the proprietor, kept in prison to await bail. This action was followed by the seizure of all newspaper offices in Canton and the stoppage of all publications. It gave the yamen runners a good opportunity to rob and lay their hands on whatever they could. Several proprietors and managers have been arrested and imprisoned.

BOXER LANGUAGE.

A refugee returned from the north to Canton relates that the Boxers had among their passwords the following terms. They call a foreigner "big ten cent," a Christian "20 cents," and any Chinese who has anything to do with foreigners "30 cents." "To eat rice is "to wade through the sand," to kill is "to wash."

FOR AMATEUR POSTMEN.

The decision of the Acting Magistrate of your Colony with reference to the carrying of letters against the Post Office Ordinance seems to have a good effect in Canton, for I saw on the walls opposite the Canton steamer wharf the other day placards posted up saying "Don't carry letters without a stamp; if you do, you

will have to pay a fine of \$100 each, or six months imprisonment."

A PRO-FOREIGN OFFICIAL MURDERED.

Ng Yau-chuan was the Magistrate of Si-on district for over three years. He was a friend of foreigners, and was fond of everything foreign, moreover he was known to have kept up a constant correspondence with the reformer or Kang Yu-wei. Since the disturbances in the north he had desisted from talking of anything foreign for fear that his enemies of the conservative party would do him injury. Some time this year, by order of the Viceroy, he appointed one of the gentry, Tung by name, to be a chief of the volunteer force in his district. Tung was an influential but bad man, and he squeezed right and left. The Magistrate found this out, and after giving him a severe reprimand, fined him, at which Tung was very much dissatisfied and watched for an opportunity to avenge himself upon the Magistrate. Some how or other he found out that the latter had corresponded with Kang Yu-wei, and got hold of a letter as a proof. Whereupon he presented a petition to the Prefect Pao Hok Nin against the Magistrate, charging him with conspiring with the reformer Kang to get up a rebellion against the Government. Prefect Pao replied that he had no authority to dismiss the Magistrate without order of the Viceroy. Tung continued to watch for a chance, and one day as the Magistrate was going out from his yamen in a chair, with a few servants following, Tung and a party of his associates attacked and murdered him in the street and wounded his servants. Upon an alarm being given his first and third sons and his secretary came out to help and were also wounded. The assassin and his men then, rushing into the yamen, wounded and killed a few more of the servants.

AMOY.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

A DIARY OF EVENTS.

Friday 24th.—Everything quiet until 3 a.m., when fire occurred in room used as Japanese Temple. Priests reported as having removed belongings several days before and set fire to the place themselves. 3.40 a.m.—Armed Japanese party of about 40 landed on British Concession, and entered city, going to the fire and returned 4.40 a.m.; then crossed harbour to Japanese Consulate.

Saturday 25th.—Treasure taken from Bank of Taiwan and shipped on s.s. *Maiduru Maru* for Tamsui. 1.20 p.m.—100 armed Japanese landed on British Concession with two machine guns, and proceeded into the city, placing sentries at every corner of the Chinese market. Mr. Phillips, Municipal Superintendent of Police, interviewed the commanding officer, and notified he was in charge of the British Concession, and that the demonstration was entirely uncalled for, as the Chinese were the quietest people, and the action of the Japanese could but cause excitement. The commander replied it was done to show the Chinese that if any trouble took place a force was on hand to protect all foreigners. 5.30 p.m.—One half of Japanese returned to ship with one gun, remainder on patrol in city.

Sunday 26th.—At 10 a.m. 150 armed Japanese landed with machine gun just below Concession. Made Japanese school barracks. Armed Japanese patrolling city all night and a squad marching round British Concession.

Monday and Tuesday, 27th and 28th.—All quiet, Japanese in charge of Chinese market.

Wednesday 29th.—Chinese flying to interior night and day; 30,000 left in 24 hours. Thieves very busy, stopping boxes and robbing in daylight, people panic-stricken.

Thursday 30th.—British cruiser *Isis* entered harbour, and landed armed party of 70 marines and blue-jackets with one maxim gun. Occupying Butterfield and Swire's godown as barracks, British man-of-war ensign hoisted on top. Japanese gunboat *Tsukushi* entered harbour and moored opposite. During night the Japanese withdrew the two guns they had posted on Japanese Concession, and most of their men. Two Chinese thieves executed near Concession. German gunboat *Tiger* entered harbour.

rescue. Some of the American horses are new to the work and are not quite drilled: one of them threw his rider heavily and bolted: the man was stunned and would have been a prompt victim to the Boxers. They were already rushing at him when Lt. Gausen of the 3rd Bengal Cavalry, at present attached to the 1st Bengal Lancers, turned his head and saw the situation: he wheeled around, dashed back, and got the half dazed American lad up behind him just in the very nick of time. This gallant feat greatly impressed all who saw it, especially our appreciative cousins.

The French and Russians have been passing into Taku for the last five or six days at the rate of a thousand a day, and I hear, on authority, that should be unimpeachable, that the Japanese have in all landed 24,000 men, and the Russians 25,000. If so, all I can say is that such numbers have never been in evidence. I may add that coolies and camp followers, now that the Chinese have gone, are much in excess of soldiers.

Later, 8 p.m.

SOME DETAILS OF THE CAPTURE.

Mr. Tei, the Japanese Consul, has received news from the front *via* wire and runners combined. With his usual good sense and courtesy he has put it at everybody's disposal. The Japanese and Russians (with the French) marched along the North side of the Tung Chew Canal, while the English-speaking Forces followed the South side: this brought them to the East Wall of the Manchu City in the 14th, on the early morning of which they opened fire. There was a fierce artillery duel for from 8 to 10 hours: at night the Japanese with dynamite blew up two of the minor gates, the Chow Yang and Tung Chih, and entered the Tartar City at dawn in the 15th. The Americans and British simultaneously entered the Chinese City at the Tung Pien Men, and immediately after seized the Hata-men [we rather doubt this, as we have reason to think they could have got easier entrance by the Water Gate close to the Legations] and met the Japanese and others there. A detachment at once went to the Legations and found all the people alive, while the greater forces pressed on to the Huang Ching or Forbidden City, into which the Chinese fled resisting desperately. The Japanese lost one hundred in casualties: 1 captain killed, 1 colonel and one captain wounded: somebody counted 400 dead Chinese as he advanced.

The information, like nearly every message and description during this extraordinary war describes occurrences from *one point of view only*: any one can easily understand how the exigencies and excitements of the military position, to say nothing of the difficulties of language, almost wholly preclude the observation of what others are doing. We will doubtless soon know how the other allies fared, and by collating their versions of the brilliant affair get an accurate idea of what happened.

Verbal report in Tientsin already has it that the Japanese and the English-speaking forces entered their two gates simultaneously, and that the Cavalry was sent round to the West side of the Tartar City to cut off the retreat, while a strong force of infantry held the Au Ting or great Northern Gate.

Tropical rain fell in Tientsin this morning and should it continue for a day or two, we feel no doubt that floods will be added to the miseries of the rural population.

18th August.

Beyond a confirmatory telegram to the Japanese Consul, there is no further news from the front. The construction put on the desperate resistance made by the Chinese troops near the Palace is that the Hsi Tai Ho and all her reactionary friends are there.

19th August.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

We at last have some news from American sources, viz., that the Dowager Empress fled four days before the allies arrived and is at Hsuan Hwa Fu on the Calgan Road. This city lies between the outer and inner Great Walls and is about four days' march North West from Peking. Major Remey at the American Artillery is dead to the profound regret of his fellow soldiers. His battery was said to be the finest in the Service and he himself promised to achieve rare distinction in his profession.

Later.

FIGHTING AGAIN.

This morning Tientsin again had military history to chronicle. As the American 6th Cavalry goes to Peking to-morrow, it was resolved to utilize their services in clearing out the entrenchments which have been made six miles away to our South West, and from which our reconnoitring force was fired at last Monday. The Sixth were about five hundred strong and were accompanied by some of the 1st Bengal Lancers and a few Japanese horsemen. About 3 a.m. two battalions of Japanese and Indian infantry set out so as to be on the ground when the Cavalry came up, but as usual the different arms and men did not synchronize their movements perfectly. The Cavalry got there first about 5 or 5.30 a.m. and were challenged by the enemy's outposts: dismounting they left their horses out of range and then advanced as infantry. They maintained a keen rifle contest with the enemy who far outnumbered them (the non-combatants were said to be five to one) and during the next hour and a half gradually drove them back. Then the Japanese came up on the right, the Indian troops on the left, and the fight was now more even numerically, but soon degenerated into a rout. The horses were brought up, the Cavalry men mounted and rode round and round squads of Boxers, who were armed with spears and showed the greatest courage. The carbine and revolver killed most of the 350 to 400 dead men who were left on the field, though the Bengal Lancers and Japanese horsemen also did brilliant work with lance and sword respectively. The enemy now fled pell-mell out of their defences: thereupon the infantry advanced and set fire to the string of four villages which lie in lunar shape round the margin of a former but now dry lake. The Sixth took forty or fifty prisoners, who are now here; the disposal of these men is a crux. If they be Boxers, clemency will be thrown away on them: and we have our risks of incendiarism, already great, indefinitely increased. The Japanese suggested a method of disposing of them, to which I need not now refer.

ITEMS.

This reminds me that the City Commissioners have had their first experience as judges. A leading Boxer named Wang was seized last week in the streets: he had a fair trial, but was proved beyond all doubt to be the one who had gone to the Yamen with a string of human ears and had claimed rewards for them as those of foreigners. He was decapitated, *more Japonico*, and his head placed above a description stating his crime and punishment.

The weather has broken, and the awful welter of the tropics has changed to bracing champagne-like air that is almost intoxicating.

Enteric complaints are, I am sorry to say, fearfully rife, both in camp and town; yesterday gave as the first civil victim in young Mr Moffat, of Messrs Tallien and Co.

LATEST FROM THE CAPITAL.

20th August.

The American intelligence to-day is that the Chinese still hold the Western side of the Tartar City as well as the Forbidden City, including the Palaces, and that fighting is continuous. The British and Americans are near them at the S.W. Corner. The fate of the native Christians in the Pu Pung is still uncertain.

Tientsin, 21st August.

PEKING NEWS.

Peking news, though now abundant in quantity, is disjointed and is largely personal in tone. The long beleaguered folk have simply assured their Tientsin friends of their welfare, and implored them to get prompt despatch of telegrams to anxious friends at home. As the *Store Nordeske* has now completed the shore end of the Tientsin-Chefoo cable, we shall soon be raised out of our telegraphic slough; though, as eight or ten Governments and endless pressmen will be a wanting precedence, it is difficult to see how on man is to carry on all the business.

RELIEF NOTES.

It was suspected that Sir Claude's cypher messages to the military folk concerned the entrance into Peking; consequently we were not surprised to hear that on the 19th, when our forces burst through the Tung Pien Men on the

East side of the Chinese city, some of our people made at once for the Water Gate of the Tartar City, South Wall. This gate allows the water of the great moat which passes along by the British Legation to escape under the wall. When the dusky heads of two of the 1st Sikhs popped up on the inner side on Wednesday morning, there was frenzied outburst of cheering—so much so that it drew the fire of the enemy, and a Belgian lady was wounded in the cheek. In a few minutes the Sikhs were in force; the detachment from the other forces came along from the Hata Men and the joy of deliverance was consummated. We hear that one Sikh was killed in entering the city, another wounded.

It is pathetic to know that the widowed Baroness von Ketteler refuses to believe in the death of her gallant husband. The Chinese have already pointed out his grave and coffin. I understand the latter has been opened and the exact position and nature of the wounds ascertained. It is emphatically asserted here that he was done to death by the guards who should have protected him.

We also hear for the first time that the Rev. F. H. James, a professor in the Imperial University, well-known for the excellence of his Chinese attainments, was killed by a rifle bullet in the streets during the long attack.

The Hongkong Bank staff is well and Mr. Tweed talks of opening for business at once; the presence of so many foreign troops seems to imply that banking facilities are necessary.

THE FORBIDDEN CITY.

Capt. Netzvolodoff, of the Russian permanent military staff at Tientsin, on Sunday mounted the top of the Men Shan or Coal Mountain in the Forbidden City and looked down into the Palace with good field-glasses: the only living things he saw there were four mules. The declaration is that the Chinese troops are under close cover.

There is some doubt whether the Japanese have surrounded the Forbidden City (Hung Ching) and therein hold the Chinese troops, or whether they have entered it, and surrounded the Palace. At any rate on Sunday morning the Palace had not been attacked. Firing was still going on in the West and North-west parts of the Tartar City: and there was some doubt of the truth of the previous day's news that the Dowager had fled to Hsuan Hwa-fu on the Kalgan Road. There was no news whatever of the location of the reactionary leaders.

CONSEQUENCES OF RECENT EVENTS.

The loot question has been greatly simplified by the operation of Tung Fuhsiang's men on their own account; they have cleared most of the houses of the rich. I hear that one foreign store-keeper is doing a good deal in furs: i.e. he is buying them in abundance very cheap.

In Tientsin five of the leaders of our Boxer prisoners were shot this morning: what they are to do with the other is a puzzle. Penal labour on the Russian railways in Manchuria has been suggested, but of course only one voice can determine this.

Col. Wogack is promoted, by telegraph, to be Major-General, to the great satisfaction of his many friends of all nationalities in Tientsin.

The American 15th Regulars have arrived, one battalion (500), and half of the sixth Cavalry have gone to the front.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S ORDERS.

When the German Marines left three days ago they gave out informally that the Emperor's orders were to destroy the Palace, and they were going to do it in spite of the action of other people.

THE ENTRY INTO PEKING.

GEN. GASELEE'S ACCOUNT.

The following is Gen. Gaselee's official telegram reporting the capture of Peking:—

Peking, 15th August.

At a conference on the 12th instant, it was agreed that the Allied Forces should concentrate within 5 miles of Peking on the 14th and assault on the 15th. Accordingly a forced march of 15 miles was made from Tungchow in extreme heat. We (the British) were on the extreme left and attacked the S.E. of the Chinese city. There was practically no opposition. A portion of the 17th Rajputs and 24th Punjab Infantry broke down a gate and rushed it. The Fusiliers and 1st Sikhs followed, with some

cavalry and guns. I then sent cavalry and the 24th Punjab Infantry to the "Temple of Heaven," to reinforce the left flank breaking ground to the Legation, which was entered at 8 p.m. by my Staff and 70 men of the 7th Rajputs and 1st Sikhs without loss.

Meanwhile the Field Artillery were fighting up to fire on the central gate of the Tartar city, but a sortie along the wall by Americans and Russians of the garrison anticipated us, and the gate fell into our hands.

About 5 p.m. the Americans under General Chaffee entered the Legations, and moved towards the central gate of the Tartar city for the night. During the evening the force attacked the Temple of Heaven and were engaged, and after inflicting heavy loss occupied the South Gate of the Chinese City. Our losses during the day were exceedingly small, but there are no details yet. The Japanese are supposed to have lost heavily. They had the hardest task to-day. Hope to assault Imperial city to-day.

The march has been very arduous, owing to the great heat and heavy floods. The spirits and endurance of our troops were beyond praise. I regret that owing to heavy roads and forced march the Naval Brigade were unable to participate in the entry yesterday. The way they brought their guns by boat and road from Tientsin has been an achievement of which they may be proud.

The casualties of the garrison during the siege of Peking were:—

Killed:—Capt. C. M. Strouts.
Pvt. A. Scadding.

" C. W. Philips.

Dangerously wounded:—

Pvt. A. T. Layton.

" J. E. Preston.

" A. Sawyer.

Capt. Halliday (Orlando).

Severely wounded:—

Pvt. Lickney.

" Roe.

Wounded:—Corpl. Gregory.

Pvt. Sparkes.

" Heap.

" Westbrook.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

The following is the report the Japanese General made to his Government, and forwarded to Tokio:—

"On the 14th, from 9 a.m., the Japanese division bombarded all day the two gates on the East side, and only between 8 and 9 p.m. did they succeed in forcing the two gates with dynamite. They entered the City, occupying the N. and N.E. gates.

"They sent at once a regiment of infantry to the Palace and another regiment to the Japanese Legation.

"The Americans, French, and Russians directed their movements towards the Tung-mén, passing through the Tungpingmén, fighting hard all the way.

"The English troops entered the Kyang-quimén and passed into the City through a dry aqueduct, which was only guarded by iron bars. They removed the bars and got the soldiers into the City without resistance, arriving at the English Legation at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 14th. A part of the Japanese division arrived at the Japanese Legation at 7 p.m. by the Tungpingtung gate, and found the Japanese Minister and residents safe in their Legation, part of which was destroyed.

"On the 15th another Japanese regiment was despatched to the Palace, and after a hard fight with the Chinese who were occupying it had to withdraw on account of not wanting to bombard and destroy the Palace. On the 16th we occupied all the gates and found that the Empress and all the Imperial family and officials had fled towards Hsianfu, the capital of Shensi province, escorted by 3,000 of Tung-Fuhsiang's troops.

"Peking is now in a state of complete disorder. English, French, Americans, Russians, Japanese, each chose delegates to restore order in the City. Japanese appointed Col. Shiba for their representative. The City was divided into several districts, and half of the north part of the Tartar city is now under Japan control.

"The regular Chinese troops are not to be seen in the city at present. All remaining Chinese are the banner troops and Boxers.

The Chinese losses are about 600 up to date. The exact number is difficult to tell at present.

"The Japanese trophies are five Krupp guns, one hundred old guns, and quantities of small arms of all descriptions.

"The house of Prince Tuan has been burned to the ground. The Japanese loss to date (during this engagement) is two hundred killed and wounded.

"The military telegraph line between Tientsin and Peking was put up by the Japanese during the march to Peking.

FRENCH OFFICIAL REPORT.

The following is a translation of General Frey's report to the French Government on the occupation of Peking by the Allied forces:—

The Allied troops entered the Capital on the night of the 14th to the 15th ult. after a slow cannonade lasting several hours. The Legations were saved, and the Staff was in excellent spirits. On the 16th of August a column made up of detachments of Russians, English and French, under my orders, took possession of the Chuen-tch Gate, which was strongly defended by Manchou troops with twenty quick-firing guns. The column then attacked the Sihoumen Gate, of which it took possession. The portion of the Imperial City comprised between the Peitang and the Imperial Palace and the Marble Bridge was strongly held by Chinese troops. The Allied Column, however, after some street fighting, carried Coal Hill, which it still occupies.

French:—Captain Feldman, slightly wounded; Ensign Marty, somewhat severely wounded; one sergeant and three soldiers killed, three soldiers wounded. The Russians and the Japanese had several killed and wounded.

The behaviour of the whole of the troops was admirable. More than five hundred corpses of Chinese Regulars or Boxers remained on the field.

I am anxious to make it known that the French Minister during the entire action marched by my side with his staff, and contributed materially by his local knowledge to the success of the day.

The French troops will now co-operate with those of the rest of the Allies in purging the Tartar and Chinese cities of the small bodies of regular Chinese soldiers and of Boxers, who still hold numerous points.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The following is the N.-C. Daily News special correspondent's description of the capture:—
Peking, 15th August.

Peking has been reached, assaulted, and the troops are now within its walls. The British were the first to enter the city, and to relieve the Legations after their weary siege of sixty days.

When they reached the East Gate of the Chinese city they found it closed, but this deterred them never a whit. A section of the 24th Punjab Infantry at once scaled the wall and opened the gate from the inside. The Chinese did not fire upon them as they did this, and the troops rapidly advanced. A newspaper correspondent guided General Gascoee and a company of the 1st Sikhs through the Water Gate of the Tartar city, and in a few minutes they were inside the Legation grounds.

There they were received with the greatest and most affecting delight and enthusiasm. Men cheered themselves hoarse, women and children wept, and embraced their deliverers. The Indian troops grinned their pleasure, and generally answered the greetings extended to them with the greatest heartiness.

The Legation has been fortified in the strongest way, thanks to an American missionary named Gamewell. An elaborate system of loopholed walls and deep trenches was devised to prevent the enemy mining. Notwithstanding this their condition was very critical, and in another day or two the relief would have been useless. The enemy had worked up to within a few yards of these trenches, and the defenders could even hear their officers urging and encouraging the troops to rush in and massacre the foreigners.

Provisions had grown woefully short, and there was very little horse-meat remaining. The shortness of ammunition was another serious trouble.

The defenders' guns consisted of one Austrian,

one Italian, one American Colt, one old Nordenflett, one old gun used in 1880 which had been found in a brasser's shop, a lot of old Crimean guns from the Russian Legation, besides modern rifles.

The replenishing of the ammunition was done under the Orlando's armourer, and was accomplished with wonderful ingenuity. Every available scrap of suitable metal—candlesticks, ornaments, and such valuables being freely used—was employed in the making of the ammunition. They even went to the extent of making one-pound shot. Ingenuity did not stop here, however, for a gun was actually constructed from two cylinders forming part of a fire extinguisher. This was not used, as the danger of being without an extinguisher should fire break out was realised. In addition to all this, 10,000 sandbags were made, some of silk brocade and such valuable stuffs.

It is impossible to overpraise the skill and bravery of Colonel Shiba and the Japanese marines and volunteers, upon whom the main defence rested.

Whilst the Legation was being relieved, the 24th Punjab and the 1st Sikhs, after a little street fighting, captured the Temple of Heaven. Later on the 24th Punjab, with four guns of the 12th Field Battery, bombarded and captured the South gate, which was held in force. The Royal Welsh Fusiliers and 1st Sikhs, after a little fighting, captured the Chien-mén. For some reason the Japanese, although a day ahead of the forces on the march, waited before the city after bombarding it, and followed the British when they arrived. Otherwise the honours of first entering would have been theirs. Probably there was some arrangement between the various forces.

The Americans, after bombarding another part of the city, entered by the same gate as the British, but later in the evening.

Throughout the weakness of the Chinese opposition was inexplicable.

To-day the Americans bombarded lightly the Imperial city, but withdrew later, presumably as the result of overtures from the Chinese. After what has happened, and in face of recent Imperial decrees, it is impossible to imagine the Foreign Ministers listening to such appeals. If a strong lesson is not taught her, China will once more escape the punishment of her perfidy, and it will be represented that the foreigners are too weak to do anything.

China is now trying to shelter herself here under the plea that the foreigners are only fighting Boxers; as a matter of fact, all the serious fighting on the Chinese side has been done by regular troops, led by high officials. The reports of these leaders, minimising their defeats have been printed in the Peking Gazette, together with intensely anti-foreign decrees. Among other things the Ministers' actions during the siege are criticised.

The Chinese frequently endeavoured to induce the foreigners to capitulate under promise of safe escort. Fortunately they were unsuccessful, as massacre would undoubtedly have followed the leaving of the Legations. Heavier attacks than usual always followed these overtures. In order to support the statement that the Chinese Government was protecting the Legation and feeding its inmates, two or three paltry presents of melons were sent to the Ministers.

Following the hoisting of the white flag with a promise of protection, there always came heavy firing.

On hearing of the approach of the Relief Force the Tsungli Yamen asked for an interview at the British Legation. Four of the seven Ministers opposed the granting of this, but a reply was sent appointing the next day as the time for the interview.

On the morning following, the Tsungli Yamen complained that the foreigners had in the meanwhile fired on the Chinese and killed twenty-six men and one officer. The Yamen add that this made them feel unsafe in trusting themselves to the Legation, in addition to which they were too busy to come. Their excuse was, of course, ridiculous, as the foreigners fired in self-defence.

It is a curious fact that Sir Robert Hart, received a telegram from the Yamen recently, officially reporting the state of the Customs returns, as though nothing unusual had happened.

Friday 31st.—Only a few Japanese on shore in one street where Japanese shops are situated. Another thief executed close to British Concession and head posted for inspection. Nearly all shops closed, business of all kinds at a standstill. Owing to presence of British people are gradually quieting down, and exodus diminishing. Prices of all provisions steadily increasing. Fishing boats carrying passengers only. Streets of city almost deserted, and everyone cursing the Japanese.

Saturday, 1st September.—U.S. gunboat *Castine* and British gunboat *Mohawk* arrived; Russian cruiser *Rurik* expected.

ITEMS.

During the past week panic has been the order of the day; the steam-launches were taxed to the utmost, struggling inland with boats in tow packed with passengers and luggage.

Several foreigners have been stopped by Japanese marines on Kulangsu, and the night before the British landed the Japanese sentry actually searched the Chinese policeman on duty on the British Concession. The impudence of the Japanese is a mystery to every resident.

The Amoy Hotel is to be resuscitated, so it is said. The Hotel is, it is reported, to re-open at once under most favourable management.

All our municipal police have left, as they want higher pay.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 30th August.

HIGHHANDED ACTION OF GUNBOAT "COMETE."

During the course of the stay here of the French gunboat, she went out for a day's cruise, and on her return to Swatow the following two narratives were related to me by one of the officials here. It appears that the *Comete* went as far as Huan Ao, also called by some Huangasee, where she landed some men, for what purpose is so far unknown. Some farmers who were carrying rakes, bamboos, scythes, &c., were just going to their daily work, when they observed the French bluejackets coming on shore. As a foreigner is a very rare sight at Huan Ao, a small island close to Namoa, the farmers, out of sheer curiosity, rushed along to gaze and wonder at the Frenchmen, who, it seems, interpreted the move of the Chinese as an act of hostility and without more ado fired at the crowd with the idea of dispersing them. Those on board the gunboat on seeing their men on shore firing on the Chinese, naturally thought them in danger and fired a shot from one of their guns at Huan Ao, with the result of three men killed and three dangerously wounded.

The other story goes on to say that the gunboat had landed a party, among whom there was a French priest, at Huan Ao, and these hooted at and insulted by the Chinese. On rejoining their ship, the French missionary, who understood the dialect of the Huan Ao people, related what had taken place to the Commander, who, thinking that the French flag had been insulted, ordered a shot to be fired which caused the death of three men and wounded three.

THE CONSEQUENCES.

The Chengtai of Namoa on being informed as to what had happened, despatched with all haste a telegram to the Acting Viceroy of Canton, asking him to enquire into the cause of the gunboat's action. In his telegram to the Acting Viceroy, the Chengtai stated that the gunboat arrived at Huan Ao on the 2nd day of the 8th moon and without any provocation opened fire, killing three men and dangerously wounding two. She left on the 3rd day of the 8th moon and returned to Swatow, leaving the latter place the same day for the south. The Chengtai reported the above incident to the head French missionary and telegraphed it also to the Acting Viceroy for his information.

The strangest thing of all is that those on the gunboat on returning to Swatow kept perfect silence, not divulging a word as to what had occurred. She left here on the 27th instant for Canton, apparently satisfied of having fulfilled her mission. In patiently awaiting the outcome of this incident I merely wonder what account the Commander of the *Comete* rendered as to what really happened. It cannot be denied that he acted very indiscreetly, for by his action he endangered the safety of the foreigners here,

as the Chinese greatly resent his mode of procedure; and we could not very well blame them if they started a disturbance just now.

H.M.S. "MOHAWK" TO LEAVE.

I hear that the *Mohawk*, which is still here, has received orders to proceed to Amoy owing to some trouble having broken out there. I am also informed that the Japanese had landed a party at Amoy which was the start of the trouble, and it is now rumoured that the Yokohama Specie Bank at Amoy had been burnt down.

S.S. "CHUNSHAN" IN BAD WEATHER.

It took the *Chunshan* eight days from Hongay to here, and she experienced frightful weather. She was fearfully knocked about and sustained several injuries, also losing two of her life-boats. However, nobody on board of her received any injuries.

THE CUSTOMS.

Mr. J. W. Innocent from Chefoo arrived here a few days ago and has taken over charge of the Customs affairs.

A NEW LINE OF STEAMERS.

I am informed from a very good source that a new line, connecting Swatow with North Borneo and Sandakan, is shortly to be inaugurated here. The promoters of this route are, I believe, Germans. A wealthy Chinaman has also arrived here who intends running boats between here and Sarawak.

FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Taihoku (Taipei), 1st September.

THE DETENTION OF JAPANESE TROOPS.

I telegraphed to you on the 29th to the effect that a Japanese military expedition of 1,200 men was being despatched to Amoy. To-day I wired you that they had returned to Taihoku. No explanation can be obtained as to the reason for their sudden change in plans, but the fact remains that after the troops had been actually embarked on two transports specially requisitioned for the purpose, and were about to sail, orders were suddenly received to disembark, and the whole force accordingly returned to Taihoku.

THE GROUNDS OF JAPANESE ACTION AT AMOY.

Several hundreds of Formosa Chinese who have become naturalised subjects reside in Amoy, and they, together with the Japanese residents there, have been constantly threatened by the unruly classes among the Amoy Chinese.

On the news reaching the capital of the attempted destruction of the Japanese temple by fire, some anxiety was felt among the authorities as to the safety of their nationals, and arrangements were made accordingly to send over from Kelung a considerable military force. It is quite possible that at the last moment Dr. Goto, the local chief, who was at the time in Amoy, decided that the situation was not sufficiently serious as to require so large a force and that he accordingly wired over recommending that the despatch of the military be postponed.

LOCAL TROUBLE WITH SAVAGES.

The island is quiet and there are no indications that the "Boxer" troubles on the China mainland will spread across the channel. Increasing trouble, however, has occurred with a tribe of savages who occupy the forest district in the immediate vicinity of Taikokan (Tokoham). After futile attempts on the part of the guards and police along the border to put them in order, it has been decided to send one company of infantry against them. It is believed that this will have a salutary effect and induce them to abandon, at least for a time, their head-hunting raids on the lonely settlers.

Mr. David Oliphant, who was one of the few Englishmen killed at Peking, was the third son of Mr. T. T. Oliphant, Queen Mary's. He was educated at St. Andrews University and abroad, and in 1896 passed high in the examination list of student interpreters for the East. In 1897 he joined his first post in Peking, where he acquired an excellent reputation for ability, and, on the special recommendation of Sir Claude Macdonald, was, early this year, promoted to be a full second-class assistant in the Consular service.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SANITORIA FOR AMERICAN TROOPS—BANGUED TO BE RAPIDLY IMPROVED.

Manila, 29th August.

Foreigners in the Philippines whose field of observation is limited to Manila and its surroundings have no idea what this island of Luzon offers in the way of cool, bracing and healthful climate and beautiful scenery. There is a hilly province up north called Benguet, where droves of fine sleek cattle graze over thousands of acres of good range, where cold mountain streams churn down rocky gorges, where cool winds moan through miles of tall pines and where strawberries and cream are not luxuries. Down here in hot, sweltering, muddy Manila it is hard to realize this good country is little more than one hundred and fifty miles away.

The American authorities in Manila, both civil and military, have decided that an accessible health resort is necessary for the well-being of themselves and of the men under them, and to this end they have been casting about for the best location in which to establish military sanatoria and a summer capital. They have decided upon Benguet province. Spain was also confronted with a similar need when she controlled these islands, and she also decided on Benguet for this purpose. She sent a commission there to report on the province as a health resort. This commission's report was most favourable; they spent nine months in Benguet, and among the much detailed information they submitted about the locality is the fact that the highest temperature registered during the time of their stay was 76 deg. Fahrenheit, and that in the colder months the thermometer drops to the freezing point at night. A prominent Spanish physician in Manila, speaking to the writer about Benguet, said he once had occasion to order to Benguet to be cured a number of Spanish army officers all suffering from diseases prevalent in these islands. Some of the officers followed his instructions, while others disobeyed and remained in Manila. Those who went up north were cured, while the majority of those who stayed in Manila died. It is easy to find proof that Benguet is healthy; the American Civil Commission have lately taken much testimony concerning this province, all of which convinces them that it is well adapted to the pressing needs of the Americans, namely, a health resort and a recuperating station for the army. General Wright, of the Civil Commission, Col. Dr. Maus of the Army, Mr. Higgins, General Manager of the Manila-Dagupan Railroad, and Dr. Frank Bournes have just returned from a trip into this province, whither they went to make a personal examination. Their report is most favourable; they found a delightful country and they fully concur in what the Spaniards have said of this province as a sanatorium.

A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY.

Benguet is hilly and high, its general elevation ranging from three to six thousand feet; the formation of the country is of limestone, which accounts for the remarkable purity and sweetness of the mountain streams; the air is fresh and cool and invigorating. Delicious coffee is grown on the lower altitudes of this province and vegetables and fruits of the temperate zone thrive and do well. There is an abundance of grazing land and the local cattle resemble the Jerseys of England and America. Benguet also contains gold, copper and coal. Some American prospectors have already staked out mining claims on a gulch where the whole hillside is composed of easy milling ore running in value, according to assay, from five dollars to six hundred dollars a ton; while certain rich veins assay as high as a thousand dollars a ton. Within the confines of Benguet there is a vein of copper thirty feet wide and several miles long, and out-croppings of good coal have been found in several localities.

For this province to become of value to the Americans it must of course be connected by rail with Manila, and with the idea so doing Mr. Higgins accompanied General Wright on the latter's recent trip of investigation. Mr. Higgin's railroad now runs from Manila to

Dagupan, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, and Bangued is about the same distance north of Dagupan. An extension of the road from Dagupan to Bangued is practicable and feasible, and could be constructed, it is believed, at a cost of £6,000 per mile. The railroad company have already made the American Civil Commission a tentative offer to construct this extension, which is now under consideration.

A GREAT PROSPECT.

If the Americans decide to settle this Northern province the advantages of the step will be many. First, sick and ailing troops, now going back to the States by every transport at great expense to the Government, could be sent to Benguet at a trifling cost, there to recuperate. Secondly, the opening up of this country would render it untenable to the insurgents who have long made it their rendezvous, it being particularly adopted to their method of life and warfare. Thirdly, with Manila only twelve hours away by rail, the fruits, vegetables and cattle of this productive province would find a ready market clearly to the advantage of the Benguet producer and Manila consumer. And fourthly Benguet would be a cool and healthy resort where Americans could repair for that occasional change of climate which all foreigners who reside in the Philippines do need, and where the families of army officers and civil service employees could live comfortably and well.

Benguet has a good future before it; if the railroad is built it will become the most attractive place in all these islands. It will be the centre of social life during the hot months; with the good hotels that will surely follow, the building of summer homes by members of the civil commission and army officers, life there will be comfortable and enjoyable. Benguet is as good a name as Simla, and in due time it will probably be as well known locally as is that famous Indian Hill Station.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

IN MEMORY OF THE DEAD IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Savile Club, 17, Piccadilly, W.
3rd August, 1900.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I feel sure that your readers will be interested to learn the progress of a scheme, supported in every quarter of the world, to commemorate the dead, from all parts of the British Empire, who have fallen in the South African war. For the inception of this plan I can claim no credit whatever; but it has been handed over to me by its originator to be developed on the widest possible basis. I therefore venture to ask you for a small portion of your valuable space to lay before the English-speaking public a short sketch of the arrangements now in progress. Lest I should seem premature, let me say that I write now for two reasons—first, because so large a scheme needs long and careful preparation; secondly, because I think it of great importance that there should be no risk of the attention of the public being distracted, by other possible suggestions, from the plan that has already received a support which may fairly be called not merely national, but in the widest sense imperial, as you, sir, will be in a position to judge from the lists which I enclose herewith, strictly for your private information.

A very widespread expression of sympathy has been obtained for the broad general principle that the names of all our dead should be in some way permanently preserved in an appropriate building in London, whether they were British-born, or whether they came from the Colonies, whose assistance in this campaign has marked the birth of a coherent and united Empire, in which every part is ready to share in the common responsibility and to bear the common burden. In order to give this feeling a practical form a large number of gentlemen have signified their willingness to become members of what may be called the First General Committee, a body that is drawn from a very wide area and will carry authority wherever the English tongue is spoken. Its numbers are not yet quite completed, but it is already fully

representative of the present Cabinet, of both Government and Opposition in the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, of every branch of religious thought, of the Privy Council, of the Lords Lieutenant of the London County Council, of Art and Letters, of the learned Societies, and of every Colony under the British Flag.

The objects of this Committee have already been received with approval in the highest quarters, and at the proper time, probably within a few days after active military operations in South Africa have ceased, I shall be at liberty to ask you to publish the names of its members for the information of the public. Later on, too, after the first general meeting has enabled us to distinguish the plan most likely to commend itself both in the Colonies and at home, I shall hope to lay before you details as to the form this Memorial will take, the site suggested, the method of raising funds, and other matters on which it is impossible as yet to dilate. If I seem unnecessarily vague now, I can but plead the great importance—as it appears to me—of not starting so large a project with any hard and fast ideas, and of not saddling a Committee with any stereotyped recommendations that might—in some cases—repel a large section of the public sympathy. But in the interval, before any definite conclusions have been arrived at apart from the general acquiescence of a large and representative body in the fact of a future memorial to be built in London, I shall be very glad of any suggestions in the shape either of warning or advice.

I think I need hardly say more to commend the attention of English readers to the broad principle which the Committee has been organised to support, and I look forward to the day when, under the sanction and authority of their names, a definite and fairly detailed scheme can be brought forward, after the close of the War. Faithfully yours,

THEODORE A. COOK.

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING AND DYEING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the offices of the general managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) on Monday afternoon, 3rd inst. The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C. M. G., the Hon. R. M. Gray, Messrs. A. Haupt, J. McKie (Secretary) A. Shaw (Manager), T. F. Hough, Erich Georg, R. H. Potts, J. Y. V. Vernon, Gershom Stewart, G. H. Michael, T. S. Forest, Mehta, Byramjee, Ho Fook, Ho Kom ong, Ho U Shang, Leung Tit Shan, Fok Tsan Kang, Chan Ku, and Chan (han) Nam.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts of the Company have been in your hands for some ten days, and with your consent I will not trespass on your time but consider them as read. Referring to the Balance Sheet of the Company I shall make special reference later on to the most important item therein, which of course is the indebtedness to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. of \$1,529,943.98, while on the debit side of the account the only other entry calling for explanation is accounts payable, \$5,223.78, which I should explain includes \$3,171.59 for wages and salaries due as on August 15th, but not paid at that date. With regard to the assets I may say that our stocks of yarn, cotton, cotton in process and mill stores have carefully taken and moderately valued on today's current quotations rather than on what today's higher replacing costs would represent. Turning to working account we have a loss of \$69,637.79, which however includes a sum of \$24,797.94 transferred from construction account, an item of course that would not occur again. In connection with this account I may say that the operations of the Company have been attended by most unfortunate circumstances in every one of the three prominent features which affect such an enterprise, viz., cost of cotton, state of consuming markets, and labour supply. Taking the first two considerations together I cannot more clearly explain the difficulties of the situation against which we have had to contend than by mentioning that whereas we began by purchasing cotton at

\$16.25 per picul, a partial failure of the Indian crop resulted in famine prices being established and our having to pay as high as \$30 per picul in March last, while the demoralized state of commerce in the Shantung Province, in which markets our yarns had become well and favourably known, had resulted in our selling price for a bale of three piculs falling from \$102½ in March to \$87 to-day. Briefly the cost of three piculs of cotton had advanced \$42, while three piculs of yarn had declined \$15. These are phenomenal fluctuations which under the ordinary laws of supply and demand cannot continue to prevail, and with the prospects of present weather reports from India favouring a more bountiful cotton crop, a cessation of rebellion in the north, and a return in commerce to its normal condition, we may reasonably hope to see markets assimilate to a remunerative basis. The question of labour supply has caused the management grave anxiety, deaths from plague epidemic having been numerous, and the panic caused thereby, together with the alarm created among the younger hands by police house to house inspection, resulted in such an exodus that at one time we were reduced to running 10,000 spindles only, and as this represented a very heavy loss in working, we seriously contemplated closing the mill. Fortunately since that point matters in this connection have steadily improved, and we have to-day a supply of labour which enables us to run 37,536 spindles. The next matter to which I have to refer is the financial position of the Company, and more particularly its indebtedness to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. I made reference to the matter at our meeting a year ago and in then explaining the reasons why the Company had been so much undercapitalized at the time of its flotation I said, "Up to the present time Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. had met the financial wants of the Company, but this was a purely temporary arrangement, and later on some permanent system of finance would have to be introduced." The same problem has again to be met, but in an aggravated form, and unless shareholders come forward and provide capital I can see no solution of the situation except liquidation. Considering the very large sum of money which the General Managers have already provided it will not be a surprise to the shareholders that they hesitate to make further advances to the Company, and I do not think any of you will consider that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. are over-cautious in declining to allow the debt which the Company owes them further to increase. The question which therefore presents itself, gentlemen, is "What are the shareholders prepared to do?" In conclusion I may add that were the sum due to the General Managers a very modest one instead of the very large amount which it is, they might consider it advisable, under the circumstances, to carry the Company on with their own funds for a time, as they have been doing, but you will recognize that such a large debt being already due to them it would only make matters worse further to increase it. I shall be glad to answer any questions before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, and to receive any suggestions as to meeting the financial difficulties with which the Company is confronted. I cannot of course expect shareholders to make any well-considered proposals at this meeting as to how the financing of the company is to be carried on, and I intend therefore to call a special meeting at an early date to receive an expression of your views, and to come to a decision as to what is to be done.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH said—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, and in doing so, while regretting the unfortunate nature of the results shown, I feel sure that our interests are being very carefully guarded by those in whose hands we have entrusted them.

The motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. VERNON, seconded by Mr. BYRAMJEE, the consulting committee were re-elected.

On the motion of Mr. HO FOOK, seconded by Mr. FOREST, Mr. W. Hutton Potts was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that is the whole of the business of the meeting. I am sorry we have not had a more satisfactory statement to put before you, but I need hardly say that there is nobody to blame. Circumstances alone are responsible.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The following is the report of the Hongkong Cricket Club for the season 1899-1900:—

Gentlemen,—The Committee have the pleasure of presenting the Annual Report.

The accounts (attached) show a balance at the credit of the Club of \$4,096.94.

Mr. F. Maitland heads the batting averages for 1899-1900 with 42.34; Mr. J. E. Lee being first in the bowling with a record of 27 wickets for 13.4 runs each.

The Lawn Tennis Championship was won by Mr. H. Pinckney; the "A Class" Single Handicap by Mr. A. H. Humphreys; the "B Class" by Mr. J. Hooper; the Double Handicap by Messrs. Carré and Wei On; the Professional and Commercial Pairs by Major Griffin, R.A., and Captain Langhorne, R.A.; the Veterans' Handicap by Mr. H. Pinckney.

The Racquet Championship was won by Mr. H. Hancock; Lieut. Browne, R.A., won the Handicap prize.

The Club played 16 Cricket matches of which 6 were won, 7 lost, and 3 drawn.

Dr. Tuck, R.N., made the only century of the season—102.

The thanks of the Club are due to the officers of the Regiments and Her Majesty's Ships who have so kindly put their hands at our disposal.

It is anticipated that the new iron railings round the ground will be in position before the end of the year.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Pavilion on Monday, 17th September, at 5 p.m.

H. C. Nicolle, Hon. Treasurer
F. Maitland
P. A. Cox
A. H. Skelton
S. H. Langhorne, Capt., R.A.
A. G. Wise, President (absent)
G. D. Campbell
C. C. Inchbald

Members
of the
Committee.

JAMES A. LOWSON,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, August 31st, 1900.

The accounts show an actual expenditure of \$7,654.62, which, with the balance in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank of \$4,096.94, answers to \$11,751.56 under Receipts. The heaviest item of expenditure was Cost of Racquet Gear, \$2,084.47. The subscriptions 1899-1900 brought in \$3,450.

BATTING AVERAGES.—IN TEN INNINGS AND OVER.

Name.	Innings	Not out	Total	Highest Score	Average
F. Maitland	10	1	381	98	42.3
Rev. G. B. Vallings	11	3	285	84	35.6
Dr. Tuok, R.N.	15	0	411	102	27.3
Capt. Langhorne, R.A.	14	0	363	67	25.9
E. B. Johnson, R.W.F.	11	0	214	90	19.4
A. G. Ward	16	2	269	55	19.2
J. E. Lee	14	1	237	93	18.2
H. Hancock	10	0	171	41	17.1
K. Mounsey	13	0	178	71	13.6
J. Wilde	10	1	117	39	13.0
Lieut. Strong, R.M.L.I.	14	3	142	27	12.9
Lieut. Hill, R.W.F.	11	0	137	66	12.4

BOWLING AVERAGES.—IN TEN INNINGS AND OVER.

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
J. E. Lee	135	36	364	27	13.3
Dr. J. A. Lowson	125	42	335	24	13.4
Capt. Langhorne, R.A.	117	23	378	37	14.9
Rev. G. B. Vallings	190	44	719	47	15.0

At the last meeting of the Ceylon Legislative Council on the 23rd ult. the Standing Orders were suspended to permit the Ordinance prohibiting the exportation of arms to China to pass its second reading. The matter being one of urgency, the Bill at once was taken through its Committee stage, practically without any amendment, passed its third reading, and became law.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR SEPTEMBER.

The following were the scores handed in for the above competition, which was played over the new course.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.				
Mr. H. W. Robertson	93	13	80	
Mr. J. M. McMurtrie	84	0	84	
Mr. G. Stewart	89	4	85	
Mr. C. Palmer	95	9	86	
Mr. W. J. Saunders	100	12	88	
Mr. T. S. Forrest	90	0	90	
Capt. H. B. Des Vœux, R.E.	100	8	82	

(11 entries).

POOL.				
Mr. T. S. Forrest	84	0	84	
Mr. J. M. McMurtrie	84	0	84	
Mr. G. Stewart	89	4	85	
Mr. W. J. Saunders	100	12	88	
Capt. H. B. Des Vœux, R.E.	100	8	82	

(11 entries).

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

FIELD BATTERY.

The September Carbine Competition of the above unit was held at the Association Range, Kowloon, last Sunday, 2nd inst. The weather was fine, but extremely hot, which no doubt accounted for the small attendance. The following are the best scores:—

	200	500	600	Handi.	To-
	yds.	yds.	yds.	cap.	tal.
* Gunner Lapsley	29	34	25	Sc.	88
* Gunner Stewart	30	28	23	—	81
Gunner Baldwin	29	28	20	—	77
* Gunner Duncan	19	17	20	21	77
Gunner Rattey	25	24	23	2	74

* Winners of range spoons.

HONGKONG.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Museum for last week shows that it was visited by 173 non-Chinese and 1,826 Chinese, 1,999 in all.

The Messageries Maritimes Company inform us that the Company's s. s. *Laos*, which was to have sailed from Marseilles on the 26th ult., only left on the 30th, owing to the strike. It is hoped that the *Laos* will be able to make up the time lost and arrive shortly after her due date.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received the following telegram from the mines giving the result of last month's crushing:—"456 tons of quartz crushed for a yield of 259 ounces retorted gold."

All those who had signified their willingness to join the Home Guard have been supplied with copies of H. E. Major-General Gascoigne's speech on the subject and asked to say whether they agree to the suggestion contained therein—that is, to the formation of a reserve company of the Volunteers. All the replies have not yet been received.

A man named Lucas Euston, described as a "traveller," appeared at the Magistracy on the 3rd inst. charged with assaulting an Indian watchman in the employ of the Hongkong Hotel Company. The watchman said the defendant wanted to go through a private door, and when he tried to stop him he struck him in the mouth.—The defendant said he was suffering from neuralgia and took some whisky, and he did not remember anything about the assault.—Fined \$5, or 14 days.

An accident occurred in the harbour on Monday, on board the steamer *Calgan*, whereby three coolies were injured somewhat and another seriously hurt. They were working in the hold when a rope which was being dragged along caught a section of the hatch, which fell into the hold. Fortunately it rebounded from one of the cross-beams, and in consequence the damage done was not so serious as it otherwise would have been. One coolie was struck behind the left ear, another on the arm, another on the thigh, and the fourth on the head; the last named had his skull fractured and was taken to the hospital.

Mr. H. P. Tooker has been appointed Acting Director of Public Works and Water Authority during the absence on leave of Mr. R. D. Ormsby.

Apparently the exemplary sentences inflicted upon persons found guilty of armed robbery at the last Criminal Sessions have had a beneficial effect, not a single case of armed robbery having been reported to the police since.

A proposal has been made that the Chamber of Commerce and the local branch of the China Association should convene a meeting to consider the attitude of Russia and the United States on the matter of the withdrawal from Peking.

The ten Chinese firemen from the *Kalgan*, who appeared before Mr. Hazeland on Tuesday for refusing duty and were ordered to be forcibly put on board by the police, again refused duty, and on their being taken before the Acting Harbour Master he sentenced them to ten weeks with hard labour.

Apart from plague cases, there were reported two cases of communicable disease in the colony last week, one of enteric fever on the French gunboat *Argus* in the Harbour, and one of puerperal fever in the City of Victoria. No deaths were reported beyond the four from plague.

As the popularity of Kowloon as a place of residence increases, the demands upon the hotel accommodation increase likewise, and Mr. Osborne, of the Kowloon Hotel, is making special efforts to keep pace with the times. He has had a new wing added to the original building, and will thus be in a better position to provide for the comfort of his guests than heretofore. The new premises are two storeys in height. Excellent views are obtainable from the upper storey, where there are four airy and well-appointed bedrooms. Below is a large dining room, in addition to offices, and a clean well-ventilated cook-house. It is Mr. Osborne's intention to utilise the old dining room as a drawing room for the use of his boarders. Alongside the dining room is a verandah, looking south, and in front of the verandah is a nice grass plot which it is proposed to use for alfresco teas. A new and improved entrance from Chater Road has also been made.

The Kwang Ming district, in the Western part of the Province of Kwangtung, which had hitherto been quiet, became the scene of tumultuous disorder and bloodshed during the early part of last month. This information was gleaned by us from a few refugees who have been fortunate enough to reach Hongkong in safety, after a perilous journey of over one hundred and fifty miles. They tell the same tale of pillage, incendiarism, personal torture and murder, horrible to contemplate, much less describe. As if by a murderous signal raised at the four cardinal points of the district, soldiers and civilians, the poorest and the richest of the residents, rose as to one man, and gave the cry of "Death to the foreigner." Unfortunately only a few could successfully flee from the fury of the almost instantly aroused populace, who, in their eager desire to carry out what to them was a long expected edict, slaughtered score after score of native Christians, and tortured others till a cruel lingering death put an end to their sufferings.

The *Jewish Chronicle* of the 27th July publishes an interview with the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C. M. G. Mr. Belilios had something to say about the position of Jews in Hongkong. "The Jews in our colony," he remarked, "occupy a high position, and are well respected. But I suppose that the German merchants are rather influenced by the feeling against Jews which prevails in Hamburg and the other cities of Germany from which they come. On the other hand, there are a few German Jews of the lower class, who have no reason to share the fears of the merchants, and they have formed themselves into an irregular congregation for the holding of temporary services on the New Year and Day of Atonement. They hire a hall, and borrow one or two of our scrolls. When, however, they cannot form a Minyan among themselves, they attend our Synagogue. But they do not belong to our congregation. . . . The native Chinese make no difference between a Jew and a Christian. Both are foreigners in their eyes, but if anything, they are rather better affected towards the Jew, whom they regard as an Asiatic like themselves."

At the Magistracy on the 5th inst. the master of a licensed kerosene junk anchored at the kerosene godown on the night of the 30th ult. was charged with allowing fires on board. The Ordinance says that no fires are to be kindled on board a junk containing a cargo of kerosene or any other dangerous goods. In this case joss-sticks were being burned on board, though the timbers were plentifully smeared with oil, many of the tins having been damaged in transit and leaking badly. A fine of \$25 was imposed.

At the Harbour Master's Office on the 3rd inst. an enquiry was held into the circumstances connected with the collision between the launch *Vacuum*, To Wa Tai master, certificate No. 500, and the launch *Lee Hing*, Leung Mo master, certificate No. 593. To Wa Tai, master of the *Vacuum* said:—"On Wednesday, the 29th August, at 12.30 p.m. I left Jardine's Wharf to go to Douglass Wharf, and I saw the *Lee Hing* on my port bow, 100 yards off. I blew my whistle, but she took no notice and came straight on. When about one boat's length off I went astern. The bows of the two boats struck each other. The *Lee Hing* was still going ahead at time of collision."—Leung Mo, master of the *Lee Hing*, said:—"At 12.35 I was going across from Yaumati to Victoria. On approaching the wharf I saw the *Vacuum* on my starboard bow about 100 yards off. I blew my whistle and eased down my engines, and when about one boat's length off went full speed astern. There were two sampans and other craft in my way."—Leung Wa, godown-keeper, was on board the *Vacuum* at the time of collision, and corroborated the evidence of the first witness.—Decision:—Leung Mo should have reversed engines sooner and thus avoided collision. To Wa Tai contributed to collision by not continuing on his course and speed. Both certificates were suspended for one month.

A summons taken out by Inspector Duncan against Mr. J. W. Bolles, of the Standard Oil Company, was heard at the Magistracy on Tuesday, the defendant being charged that he "unlawfully did solder kerosine tins contrary to the conditions of your license to store kerosine," and further that he "unlawfully did store damaged kerosine cases contrary to the conditions of your license to store kerosine." Mr. Looker, who appeared for the defence, pleaded guilty to the first charge and not guilty to the second. Inspector Duncan said that at one a.m. on the 1st inst. he visited the Standard Oil Company's godown at Kennedytown and saw a large number of kerosine tins stored in the open.—In reply to Mr. Looker the Inspector said the kerosine tins were stored in the space between two sheds. The tins were leaking. He did not know whether they had been soldered. The godown was swimming in oil. There were two sheds. The two sheds were full up. He did not see the oil oozing out of the tins.—At this point Mr. Looker withdrew his plea of guilty to the first charge.—Mr. Winberg, manager of the Standard Oil Company's godowns at West Point, said there were sunken spaces there for soldering tins. There were two sunken spaces with a wale two feet deep and one foot above the godown. Damaged cases were taken to the sunken spaces. They were soldered there. The tin was placed on the wale and the solderer stood inside the pit. After a tin had been soldered it was put in the open space. It was then no longer leaking. The tins were then stored in the godown. Some 800 or 1,000 tins were soldered per day. When they were brought from the ship they were placed in the pit. There was just sufficient room in the pit for the solderers to do their work. There was, as a general rule, no oil in the bottom of the pit. In this case the tins were piled up in the pit, and in consequence the pit was flooded almost up to the level. There was no room in the pit to solder, and if there had been room the men would have had to stand in two feet of oil, which they refused to do. The soldering was done in the open space. There were tins piled up in the open space, but they were good tins. The whole of the open space was swimming with oil.—On being cross-examined witness said the cases arrived by the *Sarawak*, now over at Stonecutters. They had never had a case of such excessive leakage before.—Mr. Looker having addressed the court for the defence, His Worship said he would reserve his decision.

On the 1st instant Lo Hai, a chair coolie in the employ of Mr. J. B. Scott, of Watson's Dispensary, took a clit down to the shop for his master. While waiting he stood near a case containing boxes of cigars, and Mr. J. S. Hagen saw him take a couple of boxes out and roll them up in a piece of cloth. He gave him into custody, and on the 3rd the man was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

Mr. Hazeland gave his decision in the cubicle case on Tuesday. It will be remembered that several summonses were issued by the Sanitary Board in respect of certain premises in High Street and Third Street. Evidence was given by Sanitary Inspector L. C. Brett to the effect that on his visiting the premises in question on the night of the 23rd July he found from four to six persons sleeping in cubicles on the ground floor. Mr. Hayes, for the defence, contended in the first case that these premises were not domestic buildings within the meaning of the Ordinance, but stores, and that there were no more persons sleeping on the ground floors than were allowed by the Ordinance as caretakers, which was two. He further contended that what the Inspector had described as cubicles were not cubicles within the meaning of the Ordinance. His Worship reserved his decision until he had visited the premises. He now said he had visited the premises, and he was of opinion that the summonses must be dismissed. The cubicles were certainly cubicles within the definition of section 4 of the Ordinance, but something more was required. He must be satisfied that they were domestic buildings. The Ordinance defined a domestic building as follows:—"The expression domestic building means any human habitation or building where persons pass the night, but shall not include any human habitation or building where caretakers not exceeding two in number pass the night." He must be satisfied before he could convict that more than two persons passed the night in any of these buildings. He was quite satisfied that there was accommodation for more than two in any of them. That being so, he was of opinion that they did not come within the definition "domestic buildings," and would therefore dismiss the cases.

At the Magistracy on Thursday afternoon Mr. Hazeland resumed his enquiry into a charge of robbery with arms preferred against five men. The robbery, which took place on the 28th July at Lung Chan Tsing, near Kowloon City, was of a serious character, inasmuch as an old man over 60 years of age was attacked by the robbers, who cut and slashed him in a most inhuman manner. As the result of the treatment he received he has been confined to hospital ever since. It appears that at midnight on the date in question the old man happened to open his door. The robbers, who had evidently been on the watch, rushed forward and because he disputed their entrance into his house they attacked him most savagely. One of his thumbs was cut off, he was slashed about the arm, his face was cut open, and in fact he received such injuries that it is a wonder he survived. Leaving the man unconscious they passed into the house and awakened the man's married daughter. One of the ruffians holding a knife over her head, said he would cut her unless she took off her silver bangle. She obeyed, and another asked her for the key to her box. She said she had lost it. They tried to burst the box open, but not succeeding they commenced to ransack the premises, and ultimately decamped with property to the value of \$30. It appears that while the robbers were rummaging about the house the old man who had been attacked called out to his nephew, who was sleeping in a mat-shed some 50 or 60 feet away. The nephew went into the house and he was at once seized by the robbers, who asked him who he was. As he made no reply two of the robbers took him to the mat-shed and fastened him up. One of the robbers threatened to cut him with a knife while the other took off his trousers. When the robbers had gone the matter was reported to the Kowloon City Police Station. Sergeant Clark visited the house, attended to the old man's injuries and had him removed to the hospital. In the meantime word of the robbery had been sent round to the other police stations, and within a few hours five men were arrested with some of the stolen property in their possession. The hearing was adjourned.

On Thursday morning Mr. Hazeland adjourned the court in order that he might take the deposition of a man who was lying at the Tung Wah Hospital in a dying condition. The man alleged that he had been attacked by a couple of Chinese lukongs in the Wanchai district.

Rozario, of the Madras Regiment now in Hongkong, was in a shop in Market Street on Wednesday when a Chinaman pushed against him and took some money—\$1.40—out of his pocket. The soldier seized him and handed him over to the police. On Thursday the man was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

The residents of Queen's Road West were awakened at about one o'clock on the 1st inst. by a number of Chinese women, who were shouting and singing at the top of their voices. A Chinese constable spoiled their fun by taking them into custody. Later in the day they were taken before Mr. Hazeland, who fined each of them \$3.

For refusing to accept a legal fare two rickshaw coolies were on Thursday fined \$3 each, or 14 days. Ahmet Ramjahn said that on Wednesday night he wanted to engage defendants' rickshaws, which were standing in Queen's Road opposite the entrance to the Hongkong Hotel, but the defendants refused to accept him. He accordingly gave them into custody.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 3rd inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for competition by auction several lots of Crown land. Inland lot 1614, situate at Taipingshan was bought by Messrs. Chan Cheuk Fan and Lau Chin Ting for \$35,488. It is proposed to utilise the site for semi-European dwellings. Inland Lot 1615, situate at Morrison Hill Gap, was knocked down to Mr. Pang Shan Chun, for Mr. Ho Tung, for \$391. Three lots above Pokfolum Conduit were also put up, and were disposed of as follows:—Inland Lot 1545, sold to Mr. G. N. Carvalho for \$6,500; Inland Lot 1546, sold to Mr. H. Bathurst for \$7,000; Inland Lot 1547, sold to Mr. Paul Jordan for \$4,380 (for European dwellings).

H. Kite, a Lance-sergeant in the R.W.F. was charged at the Magistracy on the 3rd inst with being drunk and assaulting a rickshaw coolie named Mok Sam.—The complainant said that on Saturday midnight he was at the Praya entrance to the Hongkong Hotel. He had taken a fare to the hotel and was waiting. The defendant, without saying a word, gave him a blow on the cheek with his clenched fist. He also gave him a kick on the stern and several on the back. He called out and an European constable came. The defendant still had hold of him.—A Chinaman employed at Jardine's Sugar Refinery said he saw the defendant holding the complainant by the queue and hitting him. A Chinese constable said he also saw the defendant holding the complainant by the queue, but he did not see him strike him.—Lance-Sergeant Sim said that on hearing a police-whistle he went towards the Praya and saw the defendant walking up Pedder Street with the complainant, who was bleeding at the mouth, following him. The defendant was under the influence of liquor.—William Wilkinson, of the Garrison Police, who was called by the defendant, said he was standing outside the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday night when he saw the defendant try to engage a rickshaw. The coolie ran away and the defendant ran after him and tried to make him take him to the Barracks. He did not see the defendant strike the complainant.—Another member of the Garrison Police gave similar evidence.—The defendant said that at about half-past 11 on Saturday night he came out of the Criterion Hotel. Outside the hotel were about 12 rickshaws unemployed. He asked several to take him to the Barracks but they refused. He got into the complainant's rickshaw and the man ran away. He ran after him, caught hold of his queue and brought him back. He wanted to give him in charge, but Private Wilkinson said the best thing to do would be to let the man go. He accordingly let the man go, and then the sergeant came to him and told him he would have to go to the Police Station for assaulting the rickshaw coolie. As to being drunk he could not have been very drunk or else he could not have run 150 yards after the coolie and caught him.—The charge of drunkenness was dismissed, but for assaulting the rickshaw coolie the defendant was fined \$5, or 14 days.

The plague cases for the week ending at noon yesterday were only 3, and there were 3 deaths. Two contractor's coolies employed in connection with some building operations in Mosque Junction began to quarrel on the 30th ult. One injured the other in a vital part and the man had to be taken to hospital, where he lies in a precarious condition. The other man appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 31st ult., and on the application of Mr. Mounsey the case was adjourned until September 7th, bail to the extent of \$100 being allowed.

Ten Shanghai firemen appeared before Mr. Hazeland on Tuesday charged with absenting themselves from the s.s. *Calgan* without leave. Mr. William Budge, the chief engineer, said the men left the ship at five o'clock that morning without asking leave. The ship was to leave in the afternoon. It was not true that the men left because he ill-treated them. They left because they did not wish to accompany the ship to Japan. His Worship made an order that the defendants be forcibly put on board the ship by the police.

At the Magistracy on the 31st ult. Lieut. George Hutchinson, of the 22nd Bombay Infantry, at present stationed in Hongkong, charged his servant, Sayad Rustam Khan, with leaving his service without reasonable notice. The complainant said he engaged the defendant before leaving India. The defendant having asked for an advance, he advanced him 50 rupees. He told him he would make no arrangements as to what he would pay him in Hongkong, as he would wait and see what was the current rate of pay there. The other officers acted in the same way. When they arrived at Hongkong they agreed to give their servants their food and 20 rupees a month.—His Worship: That would be very excellent pay.—The Complainant: In India it would be extraordinarily good. He added that he engaged the defendant on the 29th June, so that the 50 rupees advanced to him would take him to the middle of September. When the defendant arrived here he demanded 30 rupees a month, and he told him he could not have it. He was continually asking for more money, but he refused to promise him more, and on the 23rd August the defendant told him he would not work for him any longer. On the following morning the complainant went out early and on returning at about 11 o'clock he found that the defendant had gone away. He did not see him again until that day.—The defendant: On the 23rd did you not strike me?—The complainant: Yes, I did; he was extremely insulting to me.—His Worship: Now you had no business to strike him. That puts you out of court. You had no right to take the law into your own hands. Under the circumstances I must discharge the defendant.

Ah Wing, a contractor, residing at 30, Cochrane Street, was charged at the Magistracy on the 5th inst., at the instance of Mr. J. Bryan, Assistant Sanitary Surveyor, for doing drainage work without being authorised by the Sanitary Board.—His Worship: The Sanitary Board are not very consistent; you told me the last case you had that if a man does his work well, although he is not on the list, you do nothing.—Mr. Bryan: It would be rather hard to summon a man if he does it well.—His Worship: You do nothing?—Mr. Bryan: We don't summon him. We have him up at the office and caution him. In this case the man had absolutely done work which endangered the health of the inmates of the house. He was fined only last June for a similar offence, so that he knew he was doing wrong.—A fine of \$50 was imposed.

An interesting point affecting servants was raised at the Magistracy on the 5th inst. Three coolies employed on the hospital ship *Meeane* were charged with refusing duty. On Mr. Bryant, the ship-keeper, telling them to go to work they refused, the fact being that they do not consider they get pay enough—\$6 a month, the same as ten years ago—and they acted in this manner so that they might get discharged. His Worship was not satisfied that he could deal with the defendants as domestic servants, seeing that they did not live in a house, and as the *Meeane* is not a sea-going ship they could not be classed as seamen and taken before the Harbour Master. Mr. Bryant asked what remedy he had then, in case a coolie refused work, and His Worship replied that he had none unless the coolie was disorderly. The defendant would be discharged.

On the 30th ult. about a dozen men got into the Central Market and began to indulge in some horse-play. They tried to knock over some slates. Two men were arrested and brought before Mr. Hazeland on the 31st ult., but were discharged, the evidence as to identification not being satisfactory.

At the Offices of the Public Works Department on the 4th inst. Mr G. J. W. King offered for competition one lot of Crown Land, viz. Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1,109, situate at Ma-Tau-Kok, which was sold for \$2,720, to Messrs. Punchard, Lowther and Co. The upset price was \$2,700.

As the result of a row in the Central Market the other day three scavengers found themselves charged at the Magistracy on Thursday by the owner of No. 54 stall with upsetting it. It appears that a foki went to the top to draw some water. The scavenger in charge objected, saying that it was too late. An altercation ensued. From words they came to blows. The friends of each party joined in and the complainant alleged that in the tussle his stall was upset. The hearing was adjourned.

The hearing of the case Sze Fo Shing v. Sit Yee was concluded at the Supreme Court on the 3rd inst. The Chief Justice said he would reserve his decision. The plaintiff is a trader, and carries on business as a foreign goods dealer at No. 265, Queen's Road Central, the defendant being a widow residing at 30, Albany Street, Wanchai. The claim is for specific performance of an agreement dated the 12th day of January, 1900, for the sale by the defendant to the plaintiff of three houses, Nos. 44, 47, and 49, Ship Street.

The cinder-boats which ply about the harbour are continually stealing coal from one vessel or another, and accordingly when the water police come across one they generally make a search. Early on the 31st ult. P. C. (71) William Pitt searched a cinder-boat and found between two and three hundredweight of coal hidden underneath some cinders. As the two men in charge could give no satisfactory account as to how they became possessed of the coal the constable took them to the Police Station. They were each fined \$100, or three months.

The four-oar scratch race of the Boat Club was rowed on Tuesday night, 3-mile on Regatta for spoons, with the result that E. P. Herbst's course crew won, J. Hance's being second, and G. M. Young's third. Hance got away with the lead after a good start, but steering a somewhat erratic course quickly took second place to Herbst; the boats maintaining these positions to the end, the distance separating the first and second boats being three lengths. The following were the winning crew:—E. P. Herbst, Stroke, J. Wilson, J. Danby, S. Stevens, F. W. White, Cox. A 1/4-mile race for tubs will be held on the 17th Sept., and a scratch race for four-oars on 1st Oct.

It is a common complaint on the part of those who live some distance from the centre of the town that they have the greatest difficulty in getting chairs, inasmuch as the chair coolies, when they see them coming towards them take to their heels, carrying their chair with them. It would have a good effect if all served in this manner followed the runways up and gave them into custody. This is what Mr. T. K. Dealy, of Queen's College, did last week, the coolies being fined \$3, or eight days, on the 1st inst. by Mr. Hazeland. The Magistrate remarked from the Bench that the behaviour of coolies in this Colony was becoming intolerable—a remark that every one will endorse.

A chair coolie in the employ of Mr. A. M. Marshall, of Plantation Road, charged another chair coolie employed by the Chief Justice (Sir John Carrington, C.M.G.), at the Magistracy on Thursday with stealing two jackets. The complainant said that the previous night he carried his master to Mr. McKie's. On returning he saw the defendant, whom he had never seen before, coming out of his quarters with two jackets over his arm. The defendant began to run, but stumbled and fell and the complainant caught him. The defendant's story was that the complainant owed him some money which he lost to him at gambling, and because he demanded it of him when he met him on Wednesday night the complainant charged him with stealing the jackets.—Mr. Hazeland was not altogether satisfied with the evidence, and dismissed the case.

An Indian constable was on the 4th inst. fined \$10 for assaulting a rickshaw coolie at Kowloon City. His Worship said there had been far too many of these cases lately.

Sanitary Inspector L. C. Brett had another batch of property owners before the Magistracy on the 31st ult. for breaches of the regulation as to backyards. There were 23 houses affected, and a fine of \$15 per house was imposed.

At the Magistracy on Thursday a Chinaman was dealt with for cruelly ill-treating pigs. He was landing them from a vessel in a small boat at Kennedytown and had them packed so closely that there was not room for them to stand, some being in fact placed on the top of others. When landed it was found that during the transit two of them had their legs broken. A fine of \$25 was imposed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Some anxiety is being felt for the safety of the Rev. and Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Hewett, of the China Inland Mission, who are supposed to be on their way to Canton from Hing Yi in Kweichow.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Lieutenant C. MacKenzie, to the *Centurion* for the *Whiting*, in command, to date July 28; Lieutenant H. S. Sherbrooke, to the *Centurion*, to date August 20.

The first-class gunboat *Rattler*, recently paid off from the China Station, is to be ready to commission in November for another term of foreign service. The *Rattler* is to be refitted at Sheerness Dockyard at a cost of £12,514.

As Dr. Morrison, the Peking correspondent of the *Times*, is now safe, a point of literary news in reference to him may be mentioned. When he was last in England he received a most handsome offer to write a book on China as he has known it during recent years. He undertook the book, and meant to begin it when he got back to Peking. Events have been historic there since Dr. Morrison's return; they have also shut off all tidings of his book so far.

Mr. John Gardiner Austin, C. M. G., whose death at Hove, Brighton, at the age of eighty-eight has just been announced, was Colonial Secretary of Hongkong from 1868 to 1878, when he retired, performing also the duties of Treasurer from 1871 onwards. He was in 1875 Administrator of the Government of Hongkong and was nominated a C. M. G. while he held that office. Mr. Austin's colonial service commenced in 1849, when he was appointed acting-stipendiary in British Guiana.

The German residents of Brisbane were quite demonstrative when the first vessel of the North German Lloyd Company, the *Munchen*, arrived on her first voyage from the Far East to that port. Her regular trip will be from Sydney to Brisbane, Rockhampton, Herbertshohe, Stephansort, Ponape, Saigon, and Hongkong. Her companion steamer, the *Stettin*, slightly varies this route, starting from Singapore and making her voyage via Batavia, Macassar, Berinhafen, Stephansort, Herbertshohe, Rockhampton, Brisbane, and Sydney. The voyage is expected to take 35 days each way, the steamers remaining six days at each terminal port. The steamer *Dresden* will be the third vessel employed in this trade.

The death is announced from Shanghai of one of the officers of the Indian troops now in camp there, Lieut. Charles Gray Campbell passing away at the General Hospital on Tuesday morning. The deceased officer belonged to the 4th Rajputs, and arrived with the 2nd battalion, to which he was attached for service in China. On the voyage from India, the *N.-C. Daily News* states, Lieut. Campbell did not have any illness of a serious nature, but after leaving Hongkong in the transport *Zamania* he caught a chill and was ill on arrival at Shanghai. His condition became so bad that he was sent to the General Hospital. The cause of death is reported to have been pleurisy and an abscess on the liver. The deceased officer, who was born in 1868, obtained his Lieutenancy in 1893, first entering the Scottish Rifles. He had no war service, but is spoken of by his brother officers as being a very promising young soldier. The funeral took place on the 28th ult. H.M.S. *Undaunted* supplied the band, and the Chaplain of H.M.S. *Bonaventure*, the Rev. Mr. Cane, conducted the burial service.

The owners of the s. s. *Belgian King* have filed a suit against the owners of the *Tellus*, claiming salvage for towing the latter vessel to San Francisco after both vessels had collided, as already reported in these columns.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Commanders.—C. S. Hickley, to the *Barfleur*; W. C. M. Nicholson, to the *Aurora*; and J. N. Hill (R.N.R.), to the *Centurion*, additional. Lieutenant.—P. S. Litchfield, to the *Terrible* (1.)

The wave of patriotism which has swept over Great Britain has led to the Volunteer force being increased during the past few months by thirty-three companies of artillery, 249 engineers, 49 submarine miners, 1,859 infantry, and 3 medical staff corps—roughly estimated at 25,000.

M. de Bezaure, Consul-General for France at Shanghai, made last week a representation to the Taotai on the subject of scandalous coloured broadsheets being sold in the native city, representing the murder of foreigners, etc. It turns out that many of them are from the blocks used at the time of the China-Japan war, only the text being changed, while one or two of them date back to the last Franco-Chinese war.

According to the Melbourne Monthly Report of Messrs. Copland, Mackie & Co. for July, the new season's China tea met with a good reception in the sale-room, and almost the whole of one consignment of 19,000 packages was taken up at the sale, at prices which were satisfactory to vendors whilst showing good value to buyers.

The *Nagasaki Press* publishes a statement from Tokyo to the effect that it has been discovered that all the telegrams despatched to and from Peking, through the hands of Yuen Shikai, during the siege of the Legations, were concocted by Yuen himself, Li Hung-chang, and San Suen-kwai [i.e. Sheng], Chief Commissioner of the Chinese Railways, either at Shanghai or at Tsinanfoo.

It is perhaps to be regretted that no regiment with a strong Pathan element in their ranks should have been sent to China, states the *Indian Pioneer*. Some that have been selected have Pathan Companies, but a class regiment like the 40th might have been given a chance of showing what it could do on service. It is made up almost entirely of trans-frontier tribesmen, and its composition is such that it can never hope to be employed on the North-West Frontier. To whatever part of the borderland it might be sent, there would be some sepoys who would have kinsmen among the enemy. To keep such a regiment perpetually on garrison duty will mean that in the long run deterioration will set in, and that the native officers and men will lose their soldierly spirit. The 40th have never been blooded yet, the *Pioneer* proceeds to say, though it is certain that in action they would give a good account of themselves. An excellent opportunity offers now for using them in China, and if more troops have to be sent they might well be chosen. It would be the making of the regiment.

Russian newspapers give the following battleships and torpedo boats now under construction at Nikolaieff, the Baltic Shipbuilding Yard, and at Havre, as part of the Naval Programme for the year. The battleship, *Knaz Potemkin Tavricheski*, building at Nikolaieff, in the Black Sea, will be launched in the autumn. Her displacement is 12,480 tons; her engines, 10,600; her speed, 16 knots; and she will carry four 12 in. and 16 6 in. guns. A new battleship, the *Knaz Suvaroff*, is now being laid down at the Baltic Shipbuilding Yard. Her displacement will be 13,600 tons; her two engines will be each 8,150 h.p., and will be supplied by 20 Belleville boilers. Her armament will consist of four 12 in., 12 6 in. and 20 3 in. guns, and a number of machine guns. The armour will extend along her whole length, and will be 10 in. in its thickest part. She will be nearly of the same type as the *Borodino*, *Orel*, and *Imperator Alexander III.*, the last of which is building at the same yard. The three deep-sea t. b.'s *Osetr*, *Kephal*, and *Losos*, building for the Russian Navy at the Forges et Chantiers de la Mediter-

ranée, Havre, are almost precisely of the same type as the French t. b.'s. They are each of 312 tons. One will be launched this month and the others later.

Professor J. M. Dixon, who was for many years one of the best known foreign residents of Tokyo, is reported to have been killed in a bicycle accident at Glen Park, Colorado.

The value of Japanese gold coins exported from Yokohama to China, Europe, and America from the beginning of the year up to the 15th ult., is estimated at 13,600,000 yen.

The Telegraph Companies inform us that telegrams for Newchwang can be accepted at sender's risk. They will be telegraphed to Shingking and thence forwarded by courier to destination. The courier charge is \$12.00.

The *Kobe Herald* states that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will shortly resume the running of its steamers on the North China lines, as the chartered steamers will gradually be discharged by the Government, and the Company is also requested by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and others to transport their cargo to North China. It is reported that the freight on coal at Moji is falling at present, as many discharged steamers are now gathering there.

The *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 1st inst. has the following items:—There has been rain at last. It has not come a day too soon, as the crops were beginning to suffer from the drought. A good deal more is wanted, and as the weather is now broken we shall no doubt have plenty.—We hear from Kuliang that two foreign sportsmen arrived there a day or two ago attracted by the stories of there being tigers about. Their investigations so far lead them to believe that the animal that has been helping himself so freely to the dogs in the neighbourhood is a leopard and not a tiger. Not a word of information can be got about the headquarters of the beast and it seems unlikely that they will come across him. The natives at Kuliang are not a sporting lot.—Whenever land is being bought on the hill there is always some trouble about the graves, through some of the owners standing out for a price which would reduce the squeezes of the middleman too much. Some such trouble occurred on Tuesday in the vicinity of the Russian Consulate over some ground being bought as a site for a Russian chapel, and there was quite a demonstration of aggrieved natives, every man, woman and child within earshot running to join in and add to the numbers, noise and confusion. In the end the military had to be sent to the spot to assist the police in restoring order, which was quickly done.

Lieutenant-General von Lessel, who comes out with the staff of the German expeditionary force on the *Aachen* and *Rhein*, has been connected during a great part of his career with the German General Staff. He obtained his lieutenantancy in the 2nd Guards Regiment in the campaigns of 1865 and 1870-71. After studying at the Staff College for three years and subsequently commanding a company, he was attached to the General Staff of the army and also acted for a time on the staff of the 3rd Army Corps and of the 7th Division. After some further service in a regiment of the line, he returned to the General Staff as major in 1885. From 1886 to 1888 he was attached to the 20th Division, and from 1888 to 1889 to the 10th Army Corps, then under General von Caprivi at Hanover. Subsequently he was chief of the staff of the 1st Army Corps, and in 1896 he became commander of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment, and in 1897 Major-General in command of the 28th Brigade at Düsseldorf. From 1898 till May 22, 1900, he was acting as Chief Quartermaster, and since then he has been commanding the 28th Division at Karlsruhe.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy	198,068	179,984
Foochow	9,587,610	9,491,174
Canton	—	—
	9,785,678	9,671,168

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	7,026,439	3,734,398
Foochow	6,608,634	2,643,087
	13,635,073	6,377,485

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 7th September.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$95.00 to \$95.50; sales 270 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 7th September.—The tone of the market has improved a little, and prices are slightly advancing. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.56 to \$7.60 pcl.
do. " 2, White.....	6.95 to 7.00 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.17 to 5.20 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.96 to 5.00 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.64 to 7.70 "
do. " 1, White.....	7.05 to 7.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.00 to 5.05 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.94 to 4.99 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.23 to 11.25 "
Shekloong "	9.95 to 9.98 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per American ship *S.P. Hitchcock*, sailed on 26th August. For New York:—26,775 rolls matting, 1,026 bales rattan core, 1,000 cases broken cassia, 798 boxes cassia, 594 pkgs. firecrackers, 300 cases p. l. fans, 126 bales straw-braid, 100 cases soy, 100 cases cassia buds, 90 cases heather brushes, 83 bales canes, 55 cases Chinaware, 50 cases strawcuffs, 40 pkgs. rat-tanware, 6 cases camphorwood trunks.

Per steamer *Ernest Simons*, sailed 27th August. For Marseilles:—80 bales raw silk, 22 cases silks, 423 pkgs. tea, 1 box treasure (\$6,800). For Lyons:—446 bales raw silk. For London:—95 bales raw silk, 200 bales pierced cocoons.

Per steamer *Rhipheus*, sailed 26th August, For London:—4,902 boxes=102,942 lbs. scented caper tea, 4,290 boxes=90,090 lbs. Congou tea, 5 half-chests tea from Amoy, 13 boxes (particulars unknown), 3,547 bales hemp, 150 bales waste silk, 120 bales canes, 130 rolls matting, 7 bags ore, 45 bags shell, 80 cases shell, 72 cases cigars, 100 cases fans, 5 cases cowtail-hair, 10 cases essential oil, 161 cases Chinaware, 54 cases blackwoodware, 15 cases feather dusters, 4,190 cases preserves, 801 cases preserves, 390 pkgs. flower bulbs, 10 pkgs. personal effects, 30 pkgs. sundries. For London opt. Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For London opt. Hamburg:—250 bales cassia lignea, 227 bales canes. For London opt. Amsterdam opt. Hamburg:—50 bales feathers. For Liverpool. 1 case lychees. For Glasgow:—4 pkgs. sundries. For Dundee:—50 cases preserves. For Hamburg:—4 cases shell. For Buenos Ayres:—150 pkgs. tea.

Per steamer *Chusan*, sailed 1st September. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For London:—15 cases bristles, 100 bales waste silk, 85 bales raw silk, 5 cases silks, 1 bale cane sample, 1 case bird feathers. For Lyons:—499 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—100 bales waste silk, 175 bales raw silk.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 7th September.—More demands having come from the mainland, prices are consequently going further upward. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.85 to 2.90
" Round, Good quality	2.95 to 3.00
" Long	3.34 to 3.37
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.00 to 3.04
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.37 to 3.40
" White	4.00 to 4.05
" Fine Cargo	4.22 to 4.25

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 7th September.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—650 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$89, 500 bales No. 12 at \$89 to \$91, 100 bales No. 16 at \$94 to \$99, 1,200 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$103.50. *Grey Shirtings*.—250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$4.40, 1,000

pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$4.40, 1,250 pieces
Ching Way-way at 4.42½. *Scarlet Long Ells.*—
125 pieces 8 lbs. 4 basks at \$6.90. *Black Velveteen.*
—120 pieces Blue Stag at \$2.1½.

COTTON YARN—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$75.00 to \$106.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.....	2.05 to 2.15
7 lbs.....	2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.....	2.90 to 3.05
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.80 to 4.05
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.60 to 2.80
58 to 60 ".....	3.25 to 4.00
64 to 66 ".....	4.30 to 5.10
Fine.....	5.20 to 7.80
Book-folds.....	4.40 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.78 to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 ").....	2.00 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.....	1.90 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 ").....	2.40 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.).....	2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.....	4.20 to 7.10

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.....	1.55 to 5.00
Brocades—Dyed.....	— to —
Chintzes—Assorted.....	0.08½ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.22½ to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.....	0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk.....	0.36 to 2.50
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WOOLENS—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 2.50
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches.....	8.00 to 20.00
Assorted.....	8.50 to 10.00

	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.....	4.00 to 18.00

METALS—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod.....	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.).....	4.80 to —
Swedish Bar.....	7.00 to —
Small Round Rod.....	5.50 to —
Hoop ½ to 11 2 in.....	5.75 to —
Wire 5/25.....	8.00 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop.....	10.10 to —
Australian.....	10.10 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz.....	37.00 to —
Vivian's 14 20 oz.....	36.00 to —
Elliot's 14 20 oz.....	36.00 to —
Composition Nails.....	60.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	37.50 to —
Tin.....	60.00 to —

	per box.
Tin-Plates.....	7.50 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ¼ to ½.....	6.75 to —

SUNDRIES—

	per picul
Quicksilver.....	160.00 to —
	per box
Window Glass.....	5.50 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil.....	2.57½ to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 7th September.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer.....	2/0 11
Bank Bills, on demand.....	2/0 ½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight.....	2/0 1 3
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight.....	2/1
Credits, at 4 months' sight.....	2/1 ½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight.....	2/1 5

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand.....	2.59
Credits, 4 months' sight.....	2.64

ON GERMANY.—

On demand.....	2.11
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand.....	50½
Credits, 60 days' sight.....	51½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer.....	154
Bank, on demand.....	154½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer.....	154
Bank, on demand.....	154½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight.....	71½
Private, 30 days' sight.....	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand.....	1 p.c. dis.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand.....	1 p.c. pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand.....	½ p.c. pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand.....	123½
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ON HAI'PHONG.—

On demand.....	3½ p.c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand.....	3 p.c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand.....	1 23½
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate.....9.70

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.....51.25

BAR SILVER, per oz.....28½

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 7th September. — The chief features of the market during the week are a large business in Hongkong Lands, advances in Hongkong & Shanghai Banks, Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, and in several of the minor stocks. A fair general business has been transacted.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in a steady demand at from 305 to 315 per cent. premium; very few shares however have changed hands, an unsatisfied demand for shares forward exists at time of closing. The latest London rate is £55 10s. ex div. Nationals have changed hands at \$26.

MARINE INSURANCES. — Small sales of Unions at \$255 and Cantons at \$130 constitute the business of the week under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's still remain on offer and Chinas enquired for in a small way at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have improved to \$30½ with a few sales, market closing steady at that rate. Indo-Chinas have ruled quieter with sellers at \$85 and small sales at \$84½ to \$86. Douglasses are now on offer at \$46 without sales and a point lower would probably be accepted. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars and Luzons remain unchanged and without business at quotations, which are more or less nominal.

MINING.—The market continues dull. Punjoms remain on offer at \$5 without business. Queens, Jebebus, and Olivers have changed hands at quotations in small lots. Raubs continue quiet at \$54 but could be placed at \$53.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after a long period of inaction have been placed at 530, 535, and 540 per cent premium, cash, and a little higher than equivalent rates forward. The market closes steady at 540. Kowloon Wharves have ruled quieter with only small sales at \$86½ ex. div. (old issue), and at \$58½ (new issue); market closes quiet at quotations. Wanchais without sales but still enquired for.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have again improved considerably in the early part of the week; a few shares changed hands at \$173 and later a large business was transacted at \$175 for cash, and the end of the month; at time of closing fair sales have been effected at \$176, market closing steady at that rate. Some transactions have been made on time at higher than equivalent rates. Hotels continue quiet but a small demand during the week at \$118 was only met with offers to sell at \$120. West Points have been enquired for at \$48 but more are obtainable. Humphreys continue with sellers at \$10.75 without sales. Kowloon Lands unchanged.

COTTONS MILLS.—Hongkong's have changed hands at \$19 and \$15. Quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$20½, closing with sellers. China Providents have found buyers at \$9½.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[5518½, sellers
Hongkong & S'hai.....	\$125	315 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.....	24	21.
Do. deferred.....	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares.....		\$28, sales & buyers
B. Shares.....	28	\$20, buyers
Foun. Shares.....	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.....	21	\$14, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.....	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.....	\$10	\$9.50, sales & bys.
China Sugar.....	\$100	\$112, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee.....	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong.....	\$100	\$15.
Dairy Farm.....	\$6	\$8½, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.....	\$25	\$48.
Green Island Cement.....	\$10	\$20½.
H. & C. Bakery.....	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas.....	210	\$118.
Hongkong Electric.....	\$10	\$10.60, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways.....	\$100	\$2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel.....	\$50	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$120, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.....	\$50	\$165.
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$86, sellers
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	\$150, buyers
Insurance—		540 p. ct. prem.
Canton.....	\$50	\$800, buyers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$130, sales
China Traders'.....	\$25	\$77, buyers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$25	\$57, sales & sellers
North-China.....	\$25	\$295, sellers
Straits.....	\$20	Tls. 165, sellers
Union.....	\$50	\$1.
Yangtze.....	\$60	\$255, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.....	\$50	\$121, sellers
Humphreys Estate.....	\$10	\$176, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.....	\$30	\$10½, sales
West Point Building.....	\$50	\$25½.
Luzon Sugar.....	\$100	\$48, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages.....	Fcs. 250	\$36.
Gt. Estn. & C'donian.....	\$3	\$250, buyers
Do. Preference.....	\$1	10 cents
Jebebu.....	\$5	40 cents
Queen's Mines Ld.....	25c.	\$10, sellers
Olivers Mines, A.....	\$5	\$17, cents, buyers
Do. B.....	\$4½	\$3.
Punjom.....	\$8	\$2, sellers
Do. Preference.....	\$1	\$5, sellers
Raubs.....	16s. 10d.	\$1.
New Amoy Dock.....	\$6½	\$53, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		\$20½, sellers
China and Manila.....	\$50	\$65, old sellers
China Mutual Pref.....	210	\$18, sellers
China Ordinary.....	210	\$21, buyers
Do.....	25	\$210 10s., buyers
Douglas Steamship.....	\$50	\$5 5s., buyers
H., Canton and M.....	\$15	\$46, sales
Indo-China S. N.....	210	\$304, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.....	2100	\$85, sellers
Star Ferry.....	\$10	\$18, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.....	\$5	\$4½, sellers
Do.....	\$3	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos.....	\$4	\$94, sellers
D.....	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse.....	\$37½	\$60, buyers
Watkins, Ld.....	\$10	\$10.
Watson & Co., A. S.....	\$10	\$15½, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ld.....	\$5	\$5½, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON. — *Parramatta* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.), *Glaucus* (str.), *Java* (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES. — *Kawachi Maru* (str.), *Yarra* (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT. — *Hector* (str.).
FOR BREMEN. — *Preussen* (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG. — *Konigsberg* (str.), *Saxonia* (str.), *Sibiria* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Bamberg* (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C. — *Duke of Fife* (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI. — *Empress of Japan* (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O. — *Skarpeno* (str.), *Monmouthshire* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—

ARRIVALS.

1. Dresden, German transport, from S'pore.
 1. Dalhousie, British transport, from S'pore.
 1. Clyde, British str., from Bombay.
 1. America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
 1. Halle, German transport, from Bremen.
 1. Elm Branch, British str., from K'notzu.
 1. Nowshera, British transport, from Taku.
 1. Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
 1. Formosa, British str., from Coast Ports.
 1. Cachar, French transport, from Gatra.
 1. Nerbudda, British transport, from Calcutta.
 1. Annam, Danish str., from Moji.
 1. Duke of Fife, British str., from Moji.
 1. Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
 1. Guthrie, British str., from Sydney.
 1. Hermes, Norw. str., from Hongay.
 1. Iburi Maru, Japanese str., from Otaru.
 1. Flores, Dutch str., from Cardiff.
 1. Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
 1. Canning, British transpt., from Woosung.
 1. Mombassa, British transpt., from Calcutta.
 2. Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
 2. Kara, British str., from Cardiff.
 2. Trym, Norw. str., from Chefoo.
 2. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 2. Picciola, German str., from Manila.
 2. Asturia, German str., from Manila.
 2. Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 2. Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 2. Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 2. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 2. Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 2. Olympia, British str., from Manila.
 3. C. H. Kian, British str., from Singapore.
 3. Schwalbe, German cr., from Dar-es-Salaam.
 3. Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
 3. Pundua, British transport, from Calcutta.
 3. India, British transport, from Bombay.
 3. Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
 3. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 3. Richmond Castle, British str., from Amoy.
 4. Prometheus, British str., from Shanghai.
 4. Menmuir, British str., from Manila.
 4. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 4. Siam, British str., from Swatow.
 4. Hamburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 5. Sherard Osborne, Brit. str., from Singapore.
 5. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 5. Sado Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 5. P. Heinrich, German str., from Yokohama.
 5. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 5. Nankin, British transpt., from Weihaiwei.
 5. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 6. Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 6. China, German str., from Moji.
 6. Feiching, British str., from Shanghai.
 6. Java, British str., from Foochow.
 6. Airlie, British str., from Kobe.
 6. Aachen, German transport, from Bremen.
 6. Hsinchi, British str., from Shanghai.
 6. Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 6. Decidee, French gunboat, from Saigon.
 6. Sinai, French transport, from Marseilles.
 6. Phranang, British str., from Bangkok.
 7. Nairung, British transport, from Shanghai.
 7. Lalpoora, British transpt., from Calcutta.
 7. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 7. Fushun, British str., from Canton.
 7. Serbia, German str., from Hamburg.
 7. Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
 7. Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 7. Luchs, German gunboat, from Singapore.
 7. Benvorlich, British str., from Antwerp.
 7. Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
 7. Lyceoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 7. Shansi, British str., from Hongay.
- September— DEPARTURES.
1. Pentakota, British transport, for Calcutta.
 1. Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 1. Holstein, German str., for Moji.
 1. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 1. Kungping, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 1. Kalgan, British str., for Moji.
 1. Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
 1. Virawa, British transport, for Calcutta.
 1. Clyde, British str., for Shanghai.
 1. Humber, British storeship, for Shanghai.
 2. Maine, British transport, for Taku.
 2. Dresden, German transport, for Kiaochow.
 2. Halle, German transport, for Kiaochow.
 2. Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 2. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 2. Radnorshire, British str., for Nagasaki.

2. Kutsang, British str., for Swatow.
2. Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
2. Peluse, British str., for Swatow.
2. Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
2. Pennsylvania, Amr. troopship, for Manila.
2. Nowshera, British transport, for Calcutta.
2. Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
3. Diamante, British str., for Manila.
3. Benclutha, British str., for Swatow.
3. Annam, Danish str., for Singapore.
3. Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
3. Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
3. Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
3. Asturia, German str., for Shanghai.
3. Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
3. Cachar, French transport, for Saigon.
4. Mombassa, British transport, for Taku.
4. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
4. Queen Adelaide, British str., for Moji.
4. Kalgan, British str., for Nagasaki.
4. Independent, German str., for Swatow.
4. C. H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
4. Chowtai, German str., for Swatow.
4. Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Picciola, German str., for Chefoo.
4. Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
4. Azov, Austrian str., for Karatsu.
5. Schwalbe, German cruiser, for Amoy.
5. Guthrie, British str., for Tsingtau.
5. Else, German str., for Saigon.
5. Michael Jebson, German str., for Moji.
5. Kweiyang, British str., for Amoy.
5. Mogul, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
5. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
5. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
5. Prometheus, British str., for London.
5. Sherad Osborne, British str., for Shanghai.
6. Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.
6. Nankin, British transport, for Bombay.
6. Hamburg, German str., for Shanghai.
6. Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Europe.
6. Toonan, Amr. str., for Shanghai.
6. Loksang, British str., for Vladivostock.
6. Elm Branch, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
6. Australian, British str., for Kobe.
6. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
6. Richmond Castle, British str., for N. York.
6. Ningpo, British str., for Hongay.
6. Siam, British str., for Singapore.
7. Hue, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
7. Munchen, German str., for Sydney.
7. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
7. Sandakan, German str., for Sandakan.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c. Mr. and Mrs. Halifax.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. A. Spencer Ellam, Messrs. G. Harling, C. T. Lyon and M. S. Hurst; for Marseilles, Rev. and Mrs. Mason, child and infant; for London, Mrs. James, the Misses James (two) and two infants, Mr. Paul Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Linder, Miss Erricson, Miss Arpienen, Rev. and Mrs. Davey and two infants, Miss Digby, Miss Thompson, Mr. E. Godson, Miss Godson, Rev. D. Callum and Mrs. Callum and infant.

Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lewandowski, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Smith, Rev. J. A. Bunbury, Messrs. S. Vapadaki, A. Ladaponlo, Stuart Cotton, J. J. Shute, Chan Yuk Shang, T. F. Ruhm, F. T. Ryan, F. Rasmussen, F. G. Egelsur, C. J. Liebert and 216 Chinese.

Per *Clyde*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Lieut. and Mrs. Conceicas; from London, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Capt. Biddulph, Majors H. S. King and Perry, Lieut. Wise and Secd. Lieut. Caulfield; for Shanghai, Secd. Lieuts. Sheppard, Campbell, Grinlinton, Ridout, Cunningham, Spencer, Lloyd and Lieut. Freiver; from Marseilles, Capt. W. Brown; from Brindisi, Mr. Belcredi; from Singapore, Mr. C. E. Ferguson; from London Mr. Saffrey; from Marseilles, for Yokohama, Mr. Seymour; from London, for Hongkong, 270 troops; from Singapore, Mr. Ng Chor Tio.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, Mr. H. Collins, Messrs. John Jordan and A. F. Drager.

Per *Guthrie*, from Australia, Capt. R. M. Keogh (Australian Defence Force), Messrs. H. P. McAulay, Le Pan, J. Hunter, Davis, W. Hannaford, S. Kinsall, J. McHugh and R. Denny.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Roac and two children. Messrs. Gaskell and Ballot, Masters Shaw and Begley, Lieut. Rust, U.S.N.

Per *Menmuir*, from Manila, Miss Abbot, Dr. F. G. Rieloff, Mr. G. Klocke, Capt. J. Thom, Messrs. F. L. Pyne, C. Moore, R. Takeda, R. Mihami, F. Matsushita, O. W. Mertens, A. Catangis, Colgrove, T. Shimo and child, M. Shima, G. Inomoto, I. Ishin, K. Watanke, K. Mitsuda, K. Nakagawa, H. Matsusa, K. Yamashita, M. Morikawa, J. Kimoshita, H. Maniyama, F. Zuzuki, D. Yamamoto, J. Tamashita, M. Tamashita, K. Ishin, J. Kamsi, I. Mano, F. Suayama, J. Houmusa, J. Tahagi, F. Ota, I. Nabuta, O. Kashiwara, T. Kuaya, K. Ishibashi, K. Tahasha, S. Tanaka, K. Okamoto, J. Injomoto, M. Suzuki, K. Naoni, F. Tozmui, I. Nakagawa, H. Satoaka, K. Ono, M. Nishimura, W. Matsushita and R. Gatows.

Per *Hamburg*, from Hamburg, Messrs. John Meier and family, Otto Schulz, Carl Klepsch, Karl Mallue and Beckmann.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Lyne, Messrs. Cartwright, C. Schneider, T. Zundel, C. Koch, Mrs. C. Powell, Misses Powell, Messrs. E. A. Adams, C. N. Ferrier, C. H. Stiggenbotham, B. Tenner, Chas. A. Gapp, Mr. Mrs. and Master Remedios, Messrs. R. Ryhrmal, F. Mangelsdorff, Levin, Mrs. Hoorocks and child, Mrs. Dowling and children, Mrs. T. M. Silva, Messrs. V. M. Silva, Dymond, H. Grose, L. Leacomb, Cotta and Roscoe E. Wood.

Per *Airlie*, from Kobe, &c., Messrs. Brown, Cook, Turford, Rapp and Robbarts.

Per *Java*, from Foochow, Rev. and Mrs. Kearney and child, Messrs. Warren, Charles Burke, Wm. Stewart and James Howe.

Per *Hsinchi*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson and three children.

DEPARTED.

Per *Clyde*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Misses Arnold, Crumpe and Wallace, Mrs. L. Griffith, Mrs. L. Clemens, Messrs. E. K. Charrington, E. Hobden, C. E. Shiels, H. H. Wilson, H. C. Nicolle, and Rev. F. M. Julitta; from London, Second-Lieutenants Sheppard, Campbell, Grinlinton, Ridout, Cunningham, Spencer, Lloyd, Lieut. Freiver, and Capt. W. Brown; from Brindisi, Mr. Belcredi; from Singapore, Mr. C. E. Ferguson; from London, Mr. Saffrey.

Per *Rohilla*, from Hongkong, for Yokohama, Capt. Shinomiya, Surgeon N. Tanaka, Mrs. L. Jephson, Dr. S. Takazawa, Messrs. Singleton, Henderson, First Engr. R. Ohabe, Second Engr. R. Yagi, Third Engr. Ochiai, Fourth Engr. Ozaki, Fifth Engr. S. Matsuno, Sixth Engr. Matsus, Mrs. Macpheal; for Kobe, Miss Pasley, Messrs. G. Saito, Tehikawa Yohachi, Kamuni Tanta-matau, Katsuhichi Okamoto and Matsutami; for Nagasaki, Miss Hunter Brown, Mr. Abe Notars and Mr. S. Koaza; for Kobe, Miss F. E. Roberts, Dr. Bransby Roberts, Messrs. A. Forbes, J. R. Dadds and C. E. Dadds; for Yokohama, Miss Robins, Messrs. J. S. Lochead and Ah Chue.

Per *Chusan*, from Yokohama, for London, Messrs. E. L. Lakin, R. Lakin and W. L. Wilson; for Marseilles, Mr. N. A. Block; from Shanghai, for London, Mrs. James and family, Mr. Paul Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Linder, Miss Erricson, Miss Arpienen, Rev. and Mrs. Davey and family, Miss Thompson, Mr. E. Godson, Miss Godson, Rev. and Mrs. D. Callum and infant; for Marseilles, Rev. and Mrs. Mason and family; from Hongkong, for London, Mr. G. F. Cholmley; for Marseilles, Mr. R. Claucharty; for Singapore, Messrs. Wong Ming, Kan Yuen Cho, Li Chuk Ting and Li Siu Ting, Mrs. Li, Mrs. Wong, Mr. and Mrs. Tam Tat; for Penang, Mr. Chan Chun; for Brindisi, Mr. J. J. Shute.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Ellam, Messrs. F. Kemp and C. I. Liebert.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Mr. T. F. Ruhm, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart-Smith, Messrs. S. W. Cotton, L. Suidter, J. de la Rosa, F. Lara, Mrs. Lara, Messrs. H. C. Collins, R. T. Figueras and L. H. Philipps.

Per *Coptic*, for Nagasaki, Messrs. Jones, Smith and B. H. Colgrove; for Yokohama, Mr. A. H. Mancell; for San Francisco, Messrs. C. S. Coy and Henry Davenport.

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